

# NASA/HEAT Rice U Status Report – January 2021

Patricia H. Reiff, Rice University

- **Communication:** next iClip underway; new servers

HMNS is creating a new planetarium show on exoplanets and the possibility for life on other planets; unfortunately, with the new focus on Heliospheric topics, we will need to concentrate on heliospheric animations going forward. Our programmer Colin Law is in process of moving all our web pages to a new more secure server, which has taken a good deal of his time this month.

- **New Statement of Work**

For the new NSSEC guidelines, Reiff updated the project's Statement of Work for 2021. She is now contacting her contacts in South Texas to start arranging solar eclipse training sessions, since all of south Texas will experience at least 85% solar dimming during one or both of the 2023-24 eclipses (annular in October 14, 2023 and total in April 8, 2024). We are putting together a team to make plans for attempting to reach every city with a teacher training.



Paths for the eclipses of 2023 (annular) and 2024 (total) as they cross Texas. The center line of the annular eclipse (which passes from northwest to southeast) is shown green, with limits or annularity in orange and 85% solar coverage limits shown in light purple. The center line of the total eclipse is shown in blue with limits of totality in orange and 90% coverage limits shown in dark purple. The combination covers essentially all of Texas. Maps and limits based on [http://xjubier.free.fr/en/site\\_pages/solar\\_eclipses/ASE\\_2023\\_GoogleMapFull.html](http://xjubier.free.fr/en/site_pages/solar_eclipses/ASE_2023_GoogleMapFull.html) and [http://xjubier.free.fr/en/site\\_pages/solar\\_eclipses/TSE\\_2024\\_GoogleMapFull.html](http://xjubier.free.fr/en/site_pages/solar_eclipses/TSE_2024_GoogleMapFull.html).

- **URM:** Reach for the Stars

Our “Reach for the Stars” Festival, to reach middle school girls (which are typically 60% URM), was postponed from fall 2020 because of COVID. We are looking at an April 17 date but even that may need to be virtual or lower-attendance for safety.

- **Education:** ASTR530 class begins

We presently have 4 teachers and one undergraduate enrolled in ASTR 530, with two additional auditors. In addition, three other teachers are finishing up their Master of Science Teaching degree this spring