

National Aeronautics and Space Administration  
**Headquarters**  
Washington, DC 20546-0001



April 3, 2009

Dr. Michael Carini  
Acting Director, Kentucky Space Grant Consortium  
Western Kentucky University  
Department of Physics & Astronomy  
TCCW 229  
1906 College Heights Blvd. #11077  
Bowling Green, KY 42101-3576

Dear Dr. Carini:

Congratulations on the consortium's performance on the 20<sup>th</sup> Year Evaluation of the National Space Grant College and Fellowship Program. I am pleased to inform you that the consortium is eligible to apply for the next five-year grant cycle (FY2010-FY2014).

Based on the analysis of the three evaluation components (Program Performance and Results, Network Participation and Responsiveness, and Affiliate Survey) there is clear evidence of demonstrable contributions to NASA Education Outcomes and alignment with the goal and objectives of the national program.

The consortium is to be commended for the analysis of achievements, and participation in the Affiliate Survey and peer review process. The consortium's dedication to the program and commitment to this process greatly enhanced the outcome of this evaluation and contributed to the improvement of the national program.

The presentation of the results for the 20<sup>th</sup> Year Evaluation is similar to the 15<sup>th</sup> Year Evaluation (2003). You will receive an electronic notification that your results reports are ready to download from the 20<sup>th</sup> Year Evaluation Website, a secure website used for on-line PPR submission, the review process, and dissemination of electronic results. The interpretation and analysis of the data are the responsibility of the Consortium. We have provided a *Guide to Interpreting the 20<sup>th</sup> Year Results* that will assist you and your consortium in the interpretation and understanding of the results.

Your electronic package will contain four detailed reports for your review, analysis, and consideration:

- Executive Summary
- Program Performance and Results
- Network Participation and Responsiveness Results
- Affiliate Survey Results

Each report displays the results graphically, by rubric or question, for each of the three components of the evaluation. Each graph displays your consortium's result compared to the average result for your grant type. As you begin to analyze the results, it is important to focus on patterns, consistencies among reviewer comments, major themes, strengths, and opportunities for improvement. Your consortium should use the results of your analysis to direct planning for the future growth and enhancement of consortium activities. Please pay particular attention to the Network Participation and Responsiveness Results, as this is an area for improvement. I request that you share the results of this evaluation with each of your affiliate members.

The 20<sup>th</sup> Year Evaluation was conducted in accordance with the implementing rules and regulations (Federal Register Vol. 54, No. 88, Part 1259, 400(b)), which require evaluation of the National Space Grant College and Fellowship Program every 5 years. The results from this evaluation are based on a "360 degree" methodology whereby input was considered from the Space Grant Directors (Program Performance and Results), Space Grant Affiliates (Affiliate Survey), and Space Grant Program Management (Network Participation and Responsiveness). Consortia were evaluated within their grant type and were not ranked during this evaluation. A detailed discussion of the methodology of each component is provided in the respective reports.

Again, congratulations to the Kentucky Space Grant team on this achievement. Thank you for your consortium's performance and contributions to the national Space Grant network.

The Kentucky Space Grant Consortium thrived under the outstanding leadership of Dr. Richard Hackney and Dr. Karen Hackney. On behalf of the NASA Program Office staff, we recognize their exemplary service to the national network and look forward to the future under of Kentucky Space Grant under new leadership.

Sincerely,



Diane D. DeTroye  
Manager  
National Space Grant College and Fellowship Program