

Odessa College

news release

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For immediate release

Odessa College students to visit NASA Johnson Space Center

ODESSA (April 14, 2010) – Five Odessa College physics students will join students from community and junior colleges across Texas at NASA’s Johnson Space Center (JSC) in Houston April 22-23 as part of Community College Aerospace Scholars.

The program is a two-day on-site event at JSC and offers more than 300 students from across Texas the opportunity to interact with each other as they learn more about careers in science and engineering.

While at JSC, students form teams and establish fictional companies interested in Mars exploration. Each company is responsible for developing a prototype rover, designing a line drawing of the rover and forming the company infrastructure including budget, communications and presentations.

“This is a great opportunity for the students to experience what applied science and engineering is really all about. Seeing how NASA runs from behind the scenes is a great opportunity for these students to develop their skills and understanding as they work to be the next generation of scientists and engineers,” said Dr. Hardin Dunham, OC professor of physics.

Community College Aerospace Scholars is part of Texas Aerospace Scholars, created by the state of Texas, in partnership with JSC and the Texas educational community, to encourage community and junior college students to enter careers in science and engineering and ultimately the Texas highly technical workforce.

For more information, contact Dr. Hardin Dunham at 335-6315 or visit the Web site at: <http://aerospacescholars.jsc.nasa.gov/CAS/>.