Partnerships between Professional and Amateur Astronomers: A Shift in Research Paradigm

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When Amateur Astronomers Cross the Line: Researchers or Teachers?

However, what is sorely lacking in this paradigm is a bridge between the Amateur Astronomer Networks and the secondary and tertiary classrooms. Various STEM programs need to recognize these networks as local resources to integrate into their curricular, after-school programs, and guest speakers. Similarly, community colleges should consider including them as Adjunct Faculty to collaborates lessons in various science and math fields. Finally, inclusion of the amateur astronomers in various observing programs, recognition of their efforts at scientific conferences are new bridges that need will provide high quality results for low cost investment of funds and time.

"Citizen Astronomy" can be thought of as the paradigm shift transforming the nature of observational astronomy. The emerging partnerships between professional and dedicated amateur astronomers rely on creating a niche for long timeline of multispectral remote sensing. The strong synergy between the two groups has produced scientific results, published in peer-reviewed journals. With the active inclusion and use of emerging social media (Facebook, Twitter, etc.), the near daily communication and updates, the partnerships between the two groups is becoming a powerful tool for ground-based remote sensing. Most of the amateur astronomers are sophisticated tech-savvy, knowledgeable dedicated group of observers that provide a much-needed resource for professional observers: near-continuous, rapid response global observing network. Recent applications of Citizen Science are The Planet Hunters, Zoo Universe, which allows visual inspection of various astronomical data. Our Amateur Astronomers Network spans the globe; archives their data; develop and maintain software; assist with data comparison and visualization. How then do we characterize them – they are self-taught astronomers and natural teachers.

SOME RECENT DATA

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