

## Fremont Peak Astronomy Team

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Our team's primary goal was to develop project management skills and learn practical, operative experience in that area. The primary purpose of this project was to provide information on Astronomy to the public through the Fremont Peak Observatory Association (FPOA) Public Nights and special events hosted by FPOA or Hartnell College. By giving presentations on astronomical topics and showing visitors celestial objects through telescopes, we achieved this purpose. In the process of operating the telescopes, we familiarized ourselves with the location of the prominent stars and constellations. By adequately preparing for the astronomy presentations and questions posed by visitors throughout the night, we familiarized ourselves with astronomical facts by researching the objects of interest in the night sky. In order to reach our purpose and goals, we developed a project plan to keep our objectives clear. This project plan also established communication structures, staffing positions for team members with a description of their responsibilities, a schedule of night programs, guidelines for each evening of operation, and crucial procedures to decrease risk in projected situations, thereby increasing quality.

This year Miguel Rodriguez and Fabian Hernandez piloted a research component to the Fremont Peak internship. The goal of this project was to image a Near Earth Asteroid (NEA) with the aid of a digital electronic imaging device called the Charge Coupled Device (CCD). They created a manual outlining the proper procedures and guidelines to be followed when using the CCD on the 30-inch telescope. This project allowed them to gain fundamental knowledge of CCD imaging, image correction, and astronomical data analysis.



*Timothy Fuller plans to continue his education at Hartnell College studying Biology and Business Administration. He attended P & T High School. Christina Gonzalez plans to attend a four year university in fall. She attended Salinas High School. Fabian Hernandez is a former Hartnell College student who transferred to UC Santa Cruz in fall of 2007 to study Electrical Engineering. Fabian attended Everett Alvarez High School. Miguel Rodriguez is transferring to UC Santa Cruz this fall to study Biology/PreMed. He attended Salinas High School. Maria Uribe is a former Hartnell College student who transferred to UC Berkeley in fall of 2008 to study Mathematics. Maria attended Salinas High School. Victor Zarate plans to continue his education at Hartnell College this fall. He attended Salinas High School.*