



January 28, 2012

Dear Colleagues,

The Robert J. Novins Planetarium at Ocean County College in Toms River, New Jersey invites you to the 2012 Middle Atlantic Planetarium Society Conference!

It's been a mere 6 years since we last invited you to our facility, but a great deal has happened during that time. We have undergone a 3.5 million dollar renovation to the building and theater, and now feature a Zeiss ZKP4 star projector, E&S Digistar 4 full dome system and AVI SkyLase laser projector. The history of how the renovation came to be, as well as 2012's transit of Venus, total Solar eclipse and claims of doomsday planetary and galactic alignments, led to this year's theme: *When Worlds Align*.

In addition to an excellent array of presentations throughout the main program, the members of our local astronomy club the Astronomical Society of the Toms River Area (ASTRA) invite you to a star party on the College campus. We also hope you will take some time to enjoy our nearby Ocean County beaches and area attractions.

Our conference hotel, the Holiday Inn—Toms River, is located just a few minutes from the Planetarium and rooms are only \$89/night. When reserving rooms, our group code is "MPS." You can make your reservations by calling (732) 244-4000 or visiting [www.HolidayInn.com/TomsRiverNJ](http://www.HolidayInn.com/TomsRiverNJ). Please do so by April 15, 2012 to take advantage of our conference rates. Hotel parking is free. There is also ample free parking on the Ocean County College Campus for sessions at the Planetarium.

Every MAPS conference offers something for everyone. Whether you're a beginner or an expert, whether you have a small dome, a large dome, or a portable dome, you'll find something of interest at the conference. Be sure to join us at the Jersey Shore this year where you'll be sure to learn something new and share the camaraderie of your MAPS colleagues.

All of us at the Novins Planetarium are honored to host this year's conference, and are working hard to create an enjoyable and informative conference. We look forward to seeing you in just a few months and welcoming you in person to the conference, Ocean County College, the Novins Planetarium, and the Jersey Shore.

Sincerely,

Gloria A. Villalobos

Director, Robert J. Novins Planetarium

The Novins Planetarium Staff, and all the members of the MAPS 2012 planning team.

# Itinerary Highlights

## *Middle Atlantic Planetarium Society Annual Conference*

### *“When Worlds Align”*

*May 16 - 19, 2012*

*Hosted by the Robert J. Novins Planetarium – Ocean County College*

#### **Wednesday – May 16<sup>th</sup>**

Opening Reception – Robert J. Novins Planetarium

- Welcome
  - Gloria Villalobos – Planetarium Director
  - Dr. Jon Larson – Ocean County College President
- Presentations

#### **Thursday – May 17<sup>th</sup>**

Papers and presentations throughout the day.

- Workshops
- Shoot Your Mouth Off – Various Members
- Exhibit Halls Open

#### **Friday – May 18<sup>th</sup>**

- Papers and presentations in the morning.
- Workshops
- Margaret Noble Address & Banquet

#### **Saturday – May 19<sup>th</sup>**

- Papers and presentations in the morning
- Door Prizes
- Closing remarks

We look forward to adding your papers, posters and workshops!

# Workshop Descriptions

## *Middle Atlantic Planetarium Society 2012 Annual Conference*

Additional workshops may be added.

### **3D for Beginners**

**Workshop Leaders: Waylena McCully and Lonny Buinis**

*Waylena is the Production Designer for the William M Staerkel Planetarium*

Get a basic introduction to 3D production with Blender, a free, open-source tool that works on most computer operating systems. Blender has been used to create professional-quality movies, and is now being used for planetarium show production around the world, for both fulldome and traditional presentation facilities.

Learn how to navigate the Blender interface, create and animate simple objects in 3D, and use freely available 3D textures to create a simple Earth-Moon system.

*Participants MAY have to bring their own laptops.*

*Please provide active email address for further up-dates.*

### **Bring Your Earth Science Lessons into the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Using Real Seismic Data**

**Workshop Leader: Pat McQuillan**

*Education and Outreach Specialist, Incorporated Research Institutions for Seismology*

Until recently there has been a notable lack of hands/minds-on activities designed to support state and national science standards regarding the use of seismic evidence to determine the interior structure of the Earth. Improvements in simple-to-use web-based tools to access seismic data stored at the Incorporated Research Institutions for Seismology (IRIS) Data Management Center have recently made the development of such an activity possible. Attendees will actively participate in a series of lessons designed to expose them to freely available on-line seismology data products that use real data to explore the Earth's interior, the relationship between the frequency and magnitude of earthquakes worldwide and location of tectonic plate boundaries. The lessons not only addresses content standards but as also have a significant Process of Science component that allows educators to emphasize the role of models in science and the process of empirical data collection, the development of logical arguments and a skeptical review by peers.

**Interacting With Your Audience Using a Module Planetarium Program**  
**Workshop Leader: Kim Small**

*Planetarium Director, Upper Dublin School District Planetarium*

Bring back (or enrich) discussion, live teaching, and interaction in the planetarium experiences you provide your audiences!!! This workshop will demonstrate an example of how to incorporate live interactive planetarium teaching with a planetarium program that has been designed in a modular nature. This program has been produced to be used with modern full-dome technology or classic planetariums with a single flat screen projector/DVD set-up. It targets grades K through 2 and focuses on observations of the moon.

The workshop will demonstrate live interaction lessons that could be used in between the pre-recorded modules of the program described above or as stand-alone lessons. Further, additional related hands-on activities will be demonstrated and discussed to round out a complete learning experience on lunar observations for early elementary students.

**Venus Transit Telescope Adapter**

**Workshop Leader: Alan Davenport**

*Director, University of Maine Maynard F Jordan Planetarium*

The transit of Venus is just around the corner with an opportunity to do sidewalk astronomy if the tools are safe. This is the second transit in this cycle and the last for more than a century! In this workshop, participants will be able to build a telescope adapter that gives a bright, good resolution, rear-projection image for group viewing. Materials and tools are supplied for a fee.

*Due to material supplies, this workshop will be open for enrollment only up to May 1<sup>st</sup>.*

Spaces are limited.  
Pre-registration for these workshops  
is available on the conference registration form.

# **Margaret Noble Address Speaker**

## ***Middle Atlantic Planetarium Society 2012 Annual Conference***

April Whitt is an Astronomer at the Fernbank Science Center in Atlanta GA, operated by the DeKalb County school district. She has worked on education and outreach at the Adler Planetarium in Chicago, and was selected by the National Science Foundation to travel to the South Pole in December 1993. In 1995 April became a FOSTER teacher at NASA Ames on the KAO and infrared astronomy program. She has served as an outreach educator in 'Live from the Stratosphere' and NASA's MESSENGER mission and has participated in planetarium educator cosmology workshops at the Kavli Center of the University of Chicago. In the International Planetarium Society (IPS) some will know her for her LAST LIGHT and book review columns in the Planetarian, but she is also a past chair of publications and a present member of the IPS Education Committee.

April started in planetaria in her undergraduate days back in the last millennium. Then following a masters degree in education plus an internship at Morehead Planetarium in Chapel Hill NC, she has never looked back. She has been president of the Great Lakes Planetarium Association (GLPA) in the 90's, and is the current president of the Southeast Planetarium Association (SEPA). Her work through NASA programs, the planetarium, and distance learning technology has enabled her to bring to students and the public the wonders of astronomy with, in her words, "science as the ultimate detective story, trying to figure out where something came from, how it got that way, or what's going to happen next."

# Middle Atlantic Planetarium Society

## Conference Registration 2012 – Due 4/16/12

### Section 1 – Delegate Information

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Facility: \_\_\_\_\_ Position: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Ext: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax: \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Check if applicable: 1<sup>st</sup> Time Conference Attendee \_\_\_\_\_ MAPS Fellow \_\_\_\_\_ Vendor \_\_\_\_\_

Shirt Size: S \_\_\_\_\_ M \_\_\_\_\_ L \_\_\_\_\_ XL \_\_\_\_\_ XXL \_\_\_\_\_ Mens: \_\_\_\_\_ Ladies: \_\_\_\_\_

### Section 2 – Full Registration

Conference Fee	\$130.00	\$ _____
<i>(Includes Thursday lunch, Friday lunch, Buses, Banquet)</i>		
Late Registration Fee	\$40.00	\$ _____
<b>(Pay if after April 16, 2012)</b>		
Sub-total		\$ _____

### Section 4 – Guests of Members

Name of Guest:	_____	
Wed. Eve. Reception	\$30.00	\$ _____
Thursday Lunch	\$25.00	\$ _____
Friday Lunch	\$25.00	\$ _____
Friday Banquet	\$40.00	\$ _____
Sub-total		\$ _____

### Section 3 – Partial Conference Registration

Thursday only	\$75.00	\$ _____
<i>(Includes lunch)</i>		
Friday only	\$75.00	\$ _____
<i>(Includes lunch, bus to Planetarium, NO banquet)</i>		
Friday Banquet	\$40.00	\$ _____
Sub-total		\$ _____

### Section 5 – MAPS Dues

MAPS Dues	\$25.00	\$ _____
<i>(Pay only if NOT paid up through 2012)</i>		
<b><u>Must be a member to attend</u></b>		
Sub-total		\$ _____

### TOTAL

Sub-total Section 2	\$ _____
Sub-total Section 3	\$ _____
Sub-total Section 4	\$ _____
Sub-total Section 5	\$ _____
<b>Total Fee</b>	<b>\$ _____</b>

Please make check for the amount above payable to **MAPS**  
**Sorry – NO Credit Cards or PO's!**

<b>Meal Selection</b>	Beef	Chic.	Fish	Veg.
Friday Banquet	_____	_____	_____	_____

**Transportation:** The conference hotel is located approximately 4 miles from the Novins Planetarium. Do you anticipate needing transportation between the two facilities? \_\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No, will drive own car \_\_\_\_\_ Maybe

**Workshop Pre-registration:**

We currently have four workshops arranged (see enclosed descriptions.) More may be added.  
Please let us know your preference for attending (indicate 1<sup>st</sup> choice, 2<sup>nd</sup>, etc.)

\_\_\_\_\_ **3D for Beginners** (\$0.00)

\_\_\_\_\_ **Bring Your Earth Science Lessons into the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Using Real Seismic Data** (\$0.00)

\_\_\_\_\_ **Interacting with Your Audience Using a Module Planetarium Program** (\$0.00)

\_\_\_\_\_ **Venus Transit Telescope Adapter** (\$40.00/person. Please enclose a separate check made payable to Alan Davenport.)

*By registering to attend a Middle Atlantic Planetarium Society (MAPS) Conference, you grant permission to MAPS, its members and assigns to take and use your photo and video image in MAPS marketing and documentary pieces and proceedings for an indefinite period of time. Marketing and documentary pieces include, but are not limited to, printed brochures, reports, postcards, flyers, digital recordings and materials, as well as online uses such as postings on the MAPS website, online newsletters, printed and digital conference proceedings and e-mail blasts. MAPS, its members and assigns shall own all rights, including copyrights in and to the media.*

Use the enclosed addressed envelope for conference registration. Send this registration and fee to:

Novins Planetarium - MAPS Conference  
Ocean County College  
PO Box 2001  
Toms River NJ 08754-2001

# Paper/Mini-Lesson Proposal Form

Due 4/10/12

## *Middle Atlantic Planetarium Society 2012 Annual Conference*

### Biographical Information

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Facility: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

### Presentation

Papers should be 10 minutes with five minutes allocated for questions. Planetarium Mini-Lessons should be limited to 15-minutes.

I will present (check one):  Paper  Planetarium Mini-Lesson

Subject: \_\_\_\_\_

Title of Presentation: \_\_\_\_\_

Brief synopsis of presentation:

## Equipment Needs

Please check the type of equipment needed for your presentation (if more than one of each item is needed, place a number in the space.)

Visual: \_\_\_\_\_ Carousel Projector    \_\_\_\_\_ Overhead projector

Video: \_\_\_\_\_ Data Projector    \_\_\_\_\_ VCR (VHS only)    \_\_\_\_\_ DVD

Audio: \_\_\_\_\_ CD

Other equipment needs (May be unavailable): \_\_\_\_\_

Please plan to provide any computer presentations on a flash drive.

Use the enclosed addressed envelope and mail to:

Attn: Novins Planetarium - MAPS Conference  
PO Box 2001  
Toms River NJ 08754-2001

# Workshop Proposal Form

Due 4/10/12

*Middle Atlantic Planetarium Society  
2012 Annual Conference*

## Workshop Leader Biographical Information

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Facility: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

## Presentation

Workshops should run about 45 or 90 minutes.  
Please indicate the number of sessions you can offer.

Length: 45 min \_\_\_\_\_ (# of sessions you can offer: 1 \_\_\_\_\_, or 2 \_\_\_\_\_)

90 min \_\_\_\_\_

Subject: \_\_\_\_\_

Title of Workshop: \_\_\_\_\_

Brief synopsis of presentation for publication:

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**Cost per attendee:** \$ \_\_\_\_\_ **Free:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Maximum number of participants:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Equipment Needs:**

Please check the type of equipment needed for your presentation (if more than one of each item is needed, place a number in the space.)

Visual: \_\_\_\_\_ Carousel Projector \_\_\_\_\_ Overhead projector

Video: \_\_\_\_\_ Data Projector \_\_\_\_\_ VCR (VHS only) \_\_\_\_\_ DVD

\_\_\_\_\_ Laser Disc

Audio: \_\_\_\_\_ CD

Other equipment needs (May be unavailable): \_\_\_\_\_

**Room Type:**

\_\_\_\_\_ Computer Lab

\_\_\_\_\_ Planetarium Theater

\_\_\_\_\_ Classroom - Lecture Style

\_\_\_\_\_ Classroom - Tables (ex: for hands-on activities)

Other needs (May be unavailable):

**Note:**

- ◆ **Leader must be a member of MAPS for 2012 and pay conference registration fees.**
- ◆ **Workshops may not be used to represent vendor specific services, (e.g. proprietary equipment training,) or as sales presentations.**
- ◆ **Time limits will be strictly enforced and leaders must adhere to scheduled times.**

Use the enclosed addressed envelope and mail to:

Attn: Novins Planetarium - MAPS Conference  
PO Box 2001  
Toms River NJ 08754-2001

# Poster Proposal Form

Due 4/10/12

*Middle Atlantic Planetarium Society  
2012 Annual Conference*

## ***Biographical Information***

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Facility: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

## ***Poster Presentation Information***

Poster Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Description:

**[ ] Check if yes. I will require a blank poster display board.**  
***(\$5.00, payable at the registration table)***

***Poster Submission Guidelines:***

Exhibits should fit within a space approximately 4 feet wide by 2 feet deep by 4 feet tall. Cardboard Science Fair display boards are perfect for posters.

Posters must be freestanding and readily transported.

If you require a blank poster board, you may pick it up at the registration table. The cost of the blank poster board is \$5.00. You must provide your own adhesive materials.

Please check with the person at the registration table for instructions on how, when and where to set up your poster exhibit.

We encourage you to provide at least 100 copies of a handout related to your exhibit for MAPS members to take home.

You must be a MAPS member in order to submit a poster.

Please clearly display your name, facility, address, and contact numbers so delegates may have an opportunity to follow up on your work.

Poster sessions MAY NOT be used to make sales presentations. Vendors who wish to make a sales presentation must send in the vendor registration form.

Use the enclosed addressed envelope and mail to:

Attn: Novins Planetarium - MAPS Conference  
PO Box 2001  
Toms River NJ 08754-2001

# SAVE THE DATE!

MAPS Room Block  
Group Name

Book Now at the Special Rate of \$ 89.00

Availability is limited so book now to guarantee your room. A credit card is required to make a reservation, however, your card will not be charged until the date of your arrival. Your reservation can be canceled without penalty up until 6pm on your date of arrival.

Call the hotel at 732-244-4000 make your reservation  
or go online to [www.HolidayInn.com/TomsRiverNJ](http://www.HolidayInn.com/TomsRiverNJ)

MPS MAY 15, 16, 17, 18  
Group Code Available Check-In Date

The Holiday Inn of Toms River is a contemporary, full-service hotel rated Three Diamonds by AAA.

- FAST Complimentary WiFi Throughout the Hotel
- Fitness Center, Heated Indoor Pool & Sauna
- The Palms Restaurant & Lounge. Room Service Available
- Complimentary HBO, CNN, ESPN
- 24 Hour Business Center with Printers
- Atlantis & Coral Ballrooms

Check-In: 3pm. Check-Out: 12 noon.

[www.facebook.com/HITomsRiver](http://www.facebook.com/HITomsRiver)

Please note: Room rates are per night, plus all applicable taxes based on standard rooms.

The special rate will expire on 4/15/12



**Holiday Inn**

290 Route 37 East  
Toms River, NJ 08753  
[HITomsRiverHotel.com](http://HITomsRiverHotel.com)

## **Middle Atlantic Planetarium Society 2012 Conference Announcement**

February 2012

Dear Planetarium Vendor,

You are cordially invited to attend the annual MAPS Conference being held in Toms River, New Jersey at Ocean County College on May 16 - 19, 2012.

This conference will provide many opportunities to present your products and services to members of one of the oldest and largest planetarium organizations in the world. Indeed, we always look forward to seeing you at our annual conference and anticipate your return this May.

The Robert J. Novins Planetarium opened in 1974, and reopened October 2010 after extensive renovations. The planetarium now seats 101 people beneath a 40-ft diameter dome. At the heart of the theater is a Zeiss ZKP4 star projector, accompanied by an E&S Digistar 4 and AVI SkyLase laser projector.

The planetarium still produces most of its shows in-house, creating a full schedule of school shows, public programs and special events throughout the year. In support of this, our former mechanical workshop has now transformed to a new production area.

Sponsorship is a major form of support for any conference and especially one like ours. Since the Middle Atlantic Planetarium Society is a not-for-profit professional organization, the success of our event is contingent on finding additional resources to fund the activities of our conference. With this in mind, your vendor table will be included with a minimum sponsorship of \$500. If you are unable to sponsor, but would still like a vendor table at the conference, the exhibit hall cost will be \$100.

We sincerely thank you for your past and future support of our annual conference and hope you will make a generous contribution to our event this year. We also invite you to continue showing your generosity by supplying a door prize. The following levels of sponsorship are available:

Magnitude Level		
1 <sup>st</sup>	\$2,500+	Includes exhibit space, recognition as major sponsor, one (1) conference registration, full page ad in the Fall Equinox edition of the Constellation, logo on inside cover of conference program.
2 <sup>nd</sup>	\$1,500+	Includes exhibit space, recognition as sponsor, one (1) conference registration, half page ad in the Fall Equinox edition of the Constellation.
3 <sup>rd</sup>	\$1,000+	Includes exhibit space, recognition as sponsor, one (1) conference registration, quarter page ad in the Fall Equinox edition of the Constellation.
4 <sup>th</sup>	\$ 500+	Includes exhibit space, recognition as sponsor

All levels of sponsorship include recognition in the conference program, listing in the Constellation and MAPS website.

Checks should be made out to the **Middle Atlantic Planetarium Society** and mailed to:

Novins Planetarium – MAPS Conference  
Ocean County College  
PO Box 2001  
Toms River NJ 08754-2001

# Vendor Registration Form For Vendor Exhibit Hall

Due 4/16/12

*Middle Atlantic Planetarium Society  
2012 Annual Conference*

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Firm: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

**Please reserve a space in the MAPS 2012 Conference exhibit hall.**

Exhibit dates to note:

May 15      Begin Set-up in Planetarium Theater

May 16      Set-up at hotel: Noon – 5 PM      Hall opens Thursday morning

May 18      Breakdown by 4 PM

Total exhibit hall cost is \$100 for two 6-foot tables. (This cost is waived with 1<sup>st</sup>/2<sup>nd</sup>/3<sup>rd</sup>/4<sup>th</sup> magnitude sponsorship, as indicated in your invitation letter.)

\_\_\_\_\_ Instead of full payment, I will donate an approved door prize of value not less than \$50 for a reduced payment of \$50.

Please list the door prize you will provide:

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What is the additional number of 6-foot tables that you will require (\$100/two tables)?

\_\_\_\_\_ tables x \$100/2 tables = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Please note that all electrical power is the standard 110 V ac wall outlet. Extension cords, multiple outlets, cord covers, etc. are your responsibility. Banners, posters, cloth projection screens, etc. can be hung on the walls provided no marks (including pin holes) remain when you break down. Exhibit hall height is approximately 10-ft. Door prizes may be brought and given to the conference on the day of the exhibit setup in order to save shipping costs.

Utility requirements/# of outlets: \_\_\_\_\_

Any special needs: \_\_\_\_\_

Also see enclosed – please include in your mailing – the member's "Conference Registration" whose total fee is dependent on your various selections.

Vendors wishing to do a presentation or demo for the membership should fill out the *Paper/Mini-Lesson Proposal Form*. Vendor presentations are limited to 20 minutes. Please contact the conference host if additional time is needed.

Total from "Vendor's Registration" \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Total from "Member's Registration" \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Please make check payable to **MAPS**.

**Total amount enclosed:** \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Deadline: April 16, 2012**

**Please read and sign:**

I have read, understand and agree with the terms in the MAPS Vendor Policy ([http://www.mapsplanetarium.org/wp-content/uploads/2011/09/MAPS-Vendor-Policy-2010\\_Official.pdf](http://www.mapsplanetarium.org/wp-content/uploads/2011/09/MAPS-Vendor-Policy-2010_Official.pdf)). I also understand that, upon acceptance by MAPS, this form will serve as an official contract for the exhibit space and services.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Please send both registration forms along with check – sorry, NO credit cards or PO's – to:

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S Novins Planetarium - MAPS Conference  
Ocean County College  
PO Box 2001  
Toms River NJ 08754-2001