



Press Release

October 24, 2012

Arizona Science Center and Arizona State University announce educational partnership

To increase opportunity for Arizona's youth to connect, discover and be inspired by science and research and promote STEM education

Phoenix, AZ – [Arizona Science Center](#) and [Arizona State University](#) (ASU) announce the formation of a new partnership to share dynamic science happenings with the Arizona community, and to motivate and inspire K-12 students to pursue post-secondary education in science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) disciplines.

"ASU has been at the forefront in the fields of science, technology, engineering and math," said Chevy Humphrey, president/CEO of Arizona Science Center. "Through this partnership, we hope to expand our meaningful learning opportunities by sharing ASU's cutting-edge research and scientific developments."

ASU is advancing a new model for 21st century higher education – one that measures itself not by those it excludes, but by those it includes – and pursues leading edge research that contributes to the public good, assuming major responsibility for the economic, social and cultural vitality of the communities it serves. Through this partnership with Arizona Science Center, ASU will more fully realize its vision as a New American University dedicated to excellence, access and impact. The Science Center serves more than 400,000 visitors annually, including 140,000 school children. Through the Center's audiences, ASU will be able to further its commitment to enhancing discovery within the Arizona community.

Arizona Science Center aims to inspire, educate and entertain people of all ages about science. Interactive and informational exhibits at the Science Center make science and technology relevant and give children and adults alike the opportunity to put fun and hands-on exploration at the center of learning. Working with ASU will allow the Center to expand the depth and breadth of its offerings, while highlighting research and innovations happening in its' own backyard.

"Educational partnerships that inspire innovation, enhance broad accessibility to knowledge, and generate new learning and discovery opportunities are integral to the future success of our state, region and nation," said Michael M. Crow, president of Arizona State University. "We are proud to establish such an alliance with the Arizona Science Center to benefit the communities we serve."

Through this partnership, ASU and the Center will set the standard for a university and science center collaboration, both nationally and internationally. Together, ASU and the Center will plan joint exhibits, educational activities, lecture series, planetarium shows, demonstrations, and more. We envision a long-term partnership that provides a continuous flow of innovative research and educational activities, projects, and exhibits for K-12 teachers, students and the general public.

"We are very excited to have this unique opportunity to collaborate with the Arizona Science Center and embed ASU within the community," said Sethuraman "Panch" Panchanathan, senior vice president with ASU's Office of Knowledge Enterprise Development. "This is an important partnership that enables ASU to integrate the innovative and impactful ideas from our labs into an environment that will inspire and motivate future generations of talent."

Supporting this partnership, ASU's Office of Knowledge Enterprise Development is dedicated to advancing research, innovation, entrepreneurial activities and economic development efforts at ASU, in Arizona, and beyond.

A kickoff event to launch this strategic partnership is set for Friday, Oct. 26, 2012 at 5 p.m. at Arizona Science Center in downtown Phoenix. Attendees will witness first-hand the potential of this collaboration and interact with ASU researchers and scientists and explore Arizona Science Center's exhibits. Information about this partnership is available online at www.inspireazscience.org.

About Arizona Science Center: The mission of Arizona Science Center is to inspire, educate and entertain people of all ages about science. The Center, located at 600 E. Washington Street in downtown Phoenix, features more than 300 hands-on exhibits, daily live demonstrations, state-of-the-art Dorrance Planetarium and a five-story IMAX® theater.

About Arizona State University: Arizona State University is the largest public research university in the United States under a single administration, with total student enrollment of more than 70,000 in metropolitan Phoenix, the nation's sixth-largest city. ASU is creating a new model for American higher education, an unprecedented combination of academic excellence, entrepreneurial energy and broad access. This New American University is a single, unified institution comprising four differentiated campuses positively impacting the economic, social, cultural and environmental health of the communities it serves. Its research is inspired by real-world application, blurring the boundaries that traditionally separate academic disciplines. ASU champions intellectual and cultural diversity, and welcomes students from all 50 states and more than 120 nations.

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Related links:

Partnership website (<http://www.inspireazscience.org>)

Arizona Science Center (<http://www.azscience.org>)

Arizona State University (<http://www.asu.edu>)

Office of Knowledge Enterprise Development (<http://research.asu.edu>)