

National Aeronautics and Space Administration

SCIENCE MISSION DIRECTORATE

Astrobiology for the Incarcerated Lectures and Hands-on Activities Seattle and Spokane, WA 14-17 April 2018

Astrobiology for the Incarcerated in WA ~ All Learners Matter



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Astrobiology for the Incarcerated is a collaboration between the Sustainability in Prisons Project, the Initiative to Bring Science Programs to the Incarcerated, and the NASA Astrobiology Program.

Based on the philosophy that there are no "throw away" kids (or learners of any age), this collaboration leverages preexisting programs that bring lectures to incarcerated adults and hands-on activities to incarcerated youth.

In the Seattle, WA area from April 14-17, 2018, astrobiology lectures were co-presented by two members of the astrobiology community to ~400 men and women and ~50 staff in five prisons. Corresponding 10-page handouts were distributed.

Data analysis from prior lectures in UT in December, 2017 show statistically significant increases in astrobiology content knowledge and attitudes toward science.

The program continues in April, 2018

with more lectures and activities in the Cleveland and Columbus, Ohio areas. We are also pursuing partnership with the Florida Department of Corrections.