UTEP Engineering Establishes Science, Engineering, Mathematics & Aerospace Academy

The Center for Space Exploration Technology Research (cSETR) in the College of Engineering at The University of Texas at El Paso is establishing a NASA Science, Engineering, Mathematics & Aerospace Academy (SEMAA) for the Southwest. SEMAA adds a pre-college component to cSETR.

The Academy is supported by The University of Texas at El Paso and from a $600,000 multi-year NASA grant in association with Paragon TEC. The grant includes $225,000 of equipment for student exploration and projects.

SEMAA will provide activities and curriculum to encourage school aged children in the exploration of scientific principles. The Academy will host both Academic Year and Summer programs for students ranging from Kindergarten through High School. Through topics like "Living and Working in Space" and "Discovering Aeronautics", young students will learn and apply science and math to discover the excitement of technical careers. Teacher training will also be included as part of the new Academy.

SEMAA's dedicated location in the College of Engineering between the Center for Space Exploration Technology Research and the Lockheed Martin Mechanical Engineering Laboratory will expose students to the full range of Aerospace learning and research available at The University of Texas at El Paso. The Academy's equipment includes workstations for participants to learn and explore their topics. The facility is expected to offer its first program in August 2011.

For more information on the Science, Engineering, Mathematics & Aerospace Academy (SEMAA) for the Southwest or the Center for Space Exploration Technology Research contact Nate Robinson P.E., Associate Director - cSETR, at 915.747.7398 or nrobinson@utep.edu.