Public Outreach and Education with Meteorites Involving a Museum Exhibit, Website, and Teacher Workshops

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The main lesson learned from this E/PO effort was to be flexible and use a variety of educational venues.

Teacher Workshops and Public Outreach:
• As part of Portland Public Schools summer workshop program
• At professional meetings (Oregon Science Teachers Association and Oregon Academy of Science)
• Through Intel Science Fair (regional and national)
• In schools and classrooms

Lessons learned:
1) K-12 teachers already have a variety of workshops and educational events they are expected to attend.
2) Accommodate teacher needs and schedules by going to them at already scheduled events or to their classrooms.

Museum Exhibit (Rice NW Museum):
• Informational panels and meteorite specimens
• Approximately 6000 K-12 students per year, 40% from outside Portland metropolitan area
• Examples of 2 panels below (blue type indicates space where a meteorite specimen is attached to the display)

Lectures and hands-on demonstration to classrooms and groups at public libraries in rural Oregon in partnership with Libraries of Eastern Oregon (LEO) and the Oregon Museum of Science and Industry (OMSI)

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Website (http://meteorites.pdx.edu):
• Site has global reach judging from e-mail contacts
• Combination of static web pages and interactive meteorite identification exercise
• Lessons learned: Allocate more time and energy if third party (software designer) involved; educating third party required

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