Reaching Out with Outreach: My Summer as a WISE Intern

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ASP Graduate Visitor in MMM
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Image credit: Vanessa Vincente
WISE Goals

1. Advance diversity within atmospheric science and STEM fields
2. Mentor and be a role model to students
3. Increase my awareness of applied research within RAL and options available to me after graduation
Science Expo at Casa de la Esperanza

• Casa de la Esperanza learning center, a local community center dedicated to helping agricultural workers and their families

• 17 students (ages 5-12)

• Hands-on activities and take-home items
  – Eileen Carpenter at Center for Science Education

• Four stations
  – Light, Air, Water, Rotation
Light Station – Learning how light can be scattered or absorbed in our atmosphere

Marta Abalos - ASP Postdoc in ACOM
Air Station – Learning about molecules and how they are related to our sense of smell

Todd Rhodes – Graduate Visitor in CGD from Coastal Carolina Univ.
Water Station – Learning about the water cycle, cloud formation, and different cloud types

Farshid Nazari – ASP Postdoc in CISL/IMAGe
Rotation Station – Learning about vortices, tornadoes, and hurricanes

K. Ryder Fox – SOARS protégé, Undergrad at New Mexico Tech
PRECIP Mentor

• Pre-College Intern Program (PRECIP) is a summer internship designed to provide research experience and engage high school students in STEM-related fields
  – Beneficial when making decisions for majors in college
  – Writing workshop provides professional development

• 6-weeks at NCAR participating in research project
  – Poster presentation
  – Abstract
Findings

- Increasing CDNC results in precipitation suppression and delay
- CDNC has weak affect on dynamics and cloud structure
- Results suggest a threshold for CDNC impact; decreasing effect of increasing CDNC on precipitation
What’s next?

• **Two years left of PhD**
  – Teaching experience: TA-ing course and working with professor to develop syllabus, exams, homework, etc.
  – Seek further outreach opportunities (or creating some of my own!)
  – No more courses – time to focus on research and writing!

• **After PhD...**
  – Postdoc
  – Professor? Research Scientist at National Lab? Private Sector?