

A composite image featuring a galaxy, a planet, a molecular structure, and a futuristic interior. The galaxy is at the top, the planet is on the left, the molecular structure is at the bottom right, and the futuristic interior is on the right side. The text is centered over the galaxy and planet.

Gareth James

STFC Schools' Officer

# Science and Technology Facilities Council

## Swindon Office and the Science in Society Unit



# Science and Technology Facilities Council Swindon Office

- Is the administrative HQ of STFC. As a funding agency our main areas are:
  - Astronomy
  - Nuclear Physics
  - Particle Physics
  - Space Science



# Science in Society - Objectives

- To inspire young people to continue studying science, technology, engineering and maths (STEM) courses and to consider STEM based careers.
- To stimulate and respond to public interest in STFC funded research and technology.
- To encourage and support researchers who wish to undertake public and schools engagement with STFC science and technology.



# Who are our 'Key Audiences'?

- 11 – 16 year olds and their teachers
- Science inclined public
- Opinion formers
- Previously unengaged audiences



# Who do Swindon Office SiS work with to achieve their objectives?

- Lab staff
- Researchers (STFC grant holders and others)
- Science and discovery centres
- Science communication professionals
- Educational support organisations
- Teachers
- Amateur enthusiasts – astronomical socs etc



# What we offer - Funding

## Specially for Science and Discovery Centres:

Science Centre Awards                      up to £25,000      2rnds p.a.

## Specially for Schools:

STFC/IoP Schools Grants                      £500                      ongoing

## For all, in partnership with researchers:

Small Awards                                      up to £15,000      2rnds p.a.

Large Awards                                      up to £100,000      1 rnd p.a.

## Also:

Fellowships                                      up to 3 years      1 rnd p.a.

Support for exhibitors at the Royal Society Summer Exhibition

# What we offer – Resources etc.

- Schools' Officer
- Presence at major educational exhibitions
- Supporting exhibitions and events
- Meteorite and Moonrock loan scheme
- Publications:

Currently Astronomy, Space and Particle Physics

Posters

Wall charts

Booklets

Lesson plans

Corporate brochures

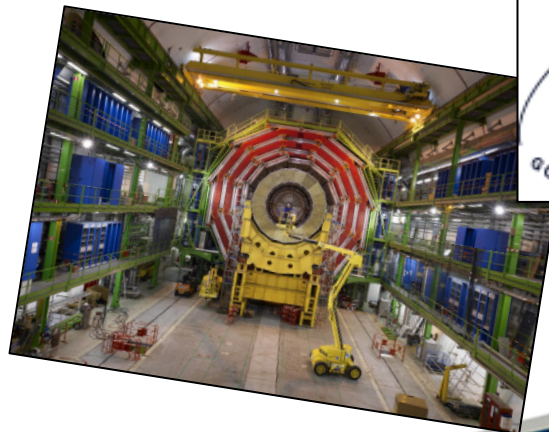
- Websites



# What we offer – Public and Schools campaigns to accompany ‘big themes’

Recent examples:

- UK Goes to the Planets
- Large Hadron Collider
- International Year of Astronomy 2009





# Working with RCUK

Working with the other Councils to deliver mutually beneficial programmes:

- BA Perspectives
- BA CREST
- Researchers in Residence
- Schoolscience website
- Nuffield Bursaries
- Research/public attitude surveys
- HEI 'Beacons' for Public Engagement
- Famelab



# For further information

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