The Spitzer Space Telescope Research Program for Teachers and Students: Teacher Research Experiences and Outcomes

Program Manager: Stephen Pompea (National Optical Astronomy Observatory)

950 N Cherry Avenue, Tucson, Arizona 85719, 520.318.8285, spompea@noao.edu

Scientist: Varoujan Gorjian (NASA Jet Propulsion Lab)

JPL 169-506, 4800 Oak Grove Dr., Pasadena, California 91109, 818-354-2068, varoujan.gorjian@jpl.nasa.gov

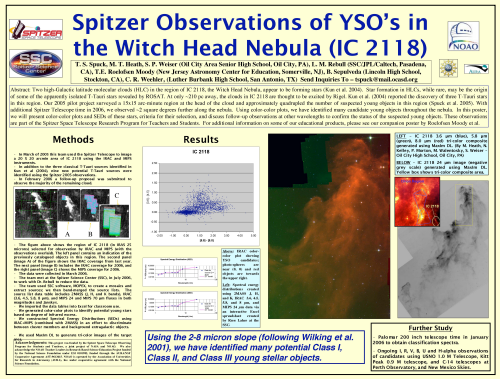
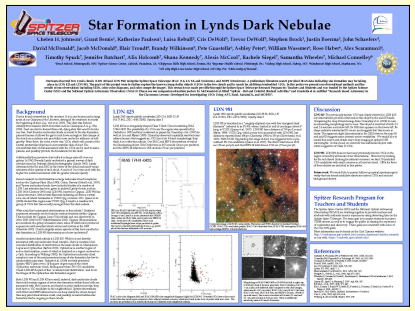
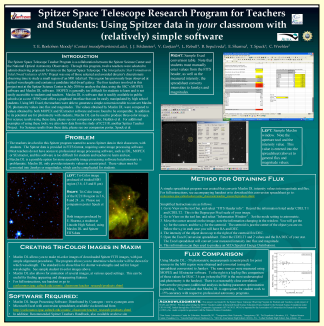
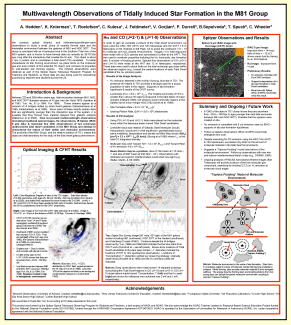
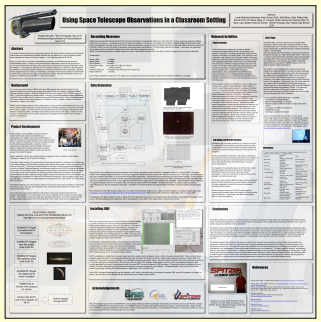
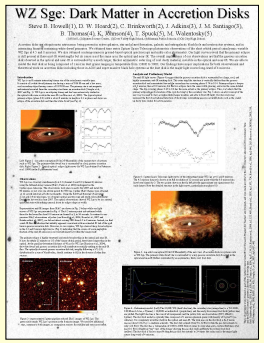
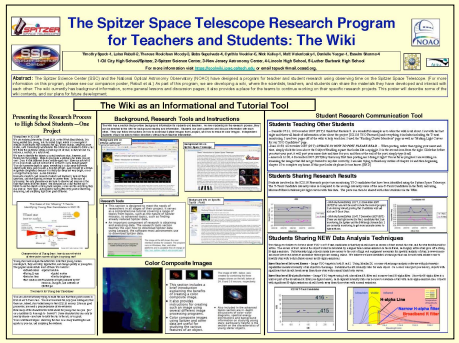
Teacher: Peter Pittman (White Bear Lake High School)

White Bear Lake, Minnesota 55110, 651.653.2600, pmpitm@wbl.whitebear.k12.mn.us

http://coolcosmos.ipac.caltech.edu/cosmic_classroom/teacher_research/

Research Experience Description: Work in geographically distributed research teams with space-based data to conduct cutting-edge research.

Project Goals: Conduct authentic research with teacher/student/scientist teams.

Project Products: Eleven major research projects were conducted by the program, 32 scientific posters have been presented at American Astronomical Society meetings, and a number of scientific papers have been published.

Project Benefits: Mastery of infrared astronomy and astronomy research. Professional development of other teachers. Motivation of future scientists.