

RET Program thoughts:

Problems with the RET program:

- a. We are underspending on RET. Too few teachers in the program.
- b. Value? Transfer to the classroom is spotty.
- c. Too few applicants.
- d. 1-1 REU mentoring model doesn't work as well as for students because:
 - Teachers don't have up-to-date skills in math, physics, computer programming
 - 8 week program is shorter than the REU program
 - Teachers can be isolated (only one at a site), can get stuck if the mentor has to be gone on vacation or at a meeting.

Solution? Restructure the program to depart from the REU model.

Teachers work in teams of 3. Three projects each summer—come up with these ahead of time. 1 team in GB, 1 team in CV, 1 team in SO. **Total of 9 teachers selected.** (Providing I get \$\$ for advertising and solve the recruiting issue.)

Advantages: Teachers start together as one community, help each other, are not alone at an institution. Have to be sure the projects would work as a team project so that teachers can do same sort of data analysis but on different objects or that there is plenty of data to go around. **This model has less time for the teachers to do the research but there are 3 x the number of teachers.**

Example Timeline for a program

June 25: All teachers start on the same day at one location: alternate Green Bank or Socorro. 10-day boot camp where we bring the group up to speed. Less redundancy than the 1-1 model. Require the presence of their advisors for the last several days (at a minimum) to introduce the research project.

- 40 Foot (or SRT) projects
- Like summer school s, but more appropriate level: whole group lectures followed by small group work. (EG If you need to learn AIPS then you are in that group)
- Intro to their projects
- GBT or VLA time?
- 3 hours Graduate credit? NM Tech or WVU?

July 6: disperse to sites to work with astronomers/engineers – project lasting **5 weeks**

July 27: Teachers gather in Socorro or Green Bank to share in a colloquium, work together to develop classroom activities. 1 week

August 3: end. Total = 7.5 weeks

(We could resurrect components of the Radio Astronomy for Teachers class when the group begins in SO. We're hoping to move the SRT to the roof of the physics building at NM Tech and could use that.)