

Science Buddies
Experts Available for Interviews ~ Spring/Summer 2011

Executive Team

Kenneth L. Hess, Founder and President



Ken successfully wears a lot of hats in his life: educator, entrepreneur, engineer, and author—not to mention amateur photographer and astronomer. When he saw how much his daughter learned doing her own science projects he wanted to create the same positive learning experience for students everywhere – and so he founded Science Buddies. Prior to turning toward education, Ken popularized computer genealogy by designing, developing, and selling the Family Tree Maker product line, which has sold millions of copies and fostered the creation of some of the most popular sites on the Internet.

Courtney Corda, Vice President AKA “Science Mom”



As “Science Mom” Courtney shares science activities on television, radio, and online. She helps families see that everyday moments like cooking, doing laundry, or going for a bike ride offer opportunities for science learning. Courtney hopes that by fostering children’s interest in science, she will help them develop a strong foundation in science and math and increase their options for finding rewarding careers in the 21st-century job market. Courtney is Vice President at Science Buddies. She is a summa cum laude and Phi Beta Kappa graduate of the University of California at Berkeley.

Board Members

Astronaut Dr. Bernard Harris



Dr. Harris is an accomplished NASA astronaut, physician and businessman. He serves as president of The Harris Foundation, Inc., a non-profit organization he founded in 1998 to develop math and science education programs for America’s youth.

Dr. Harris worked at NASA for ten years, where he conducted research in musculoskeletal physiology and disuse osteoporosis. He served on the first flight of the joint Russian-American Space Program, becoming the “First African American to walk in Space.” A veteran astronaut for over nineteen years, he has logged more than 438 hours and traveled over 7.2 million miles in space.

Dr. Douglass Osheroff



Dr. Osheroff earned his Bachelor’s degree in 1967 from Caltech. He then joined the Laboratory of Atomic and Solid State Physics at Cornell University as a graduate student, doing research in low-temperature physics. Together with David Lee and Robert C. Richardson, Osheroff used a Pomeranchuk cell to investigate the behaviour of ^3He at temperatures within a few thousandths of a degree of absolute zero. They discovered unexpected effects in their measurements, which they eventually explained as phase transitions to a superfluid phase of ^3He . Lee, Richardson and Osheroff were jointly awarded the Nobel Prize in Physics in 1996 for this discovery. Dr. Osheroff is currently Professor of Physics and Applied Physics and holds the

J.G. Jackson and C.J. Wood Professorship in Physics at Stanford University.

Dr. Steven Vogt



Dr. Steven Vogt is Professor of Astronomy and Astrophysics at Lick Observatory, UC Santa Cruz. Steve has been at Lick Observatory for the past 21 years. He built both the Hamilton spectrometer at Lick (with which most of the first extra-solar planets were discovered) and HIRES, the world’s most powerful spectrometer on the Keck Ten-meter telescope in Hawaii. Dr. Vogt is currently a member of the California-Carnegie Planet Search Team. This preeminent extra-solar planet search team is building a new telescope in the Lick Observatory that will be the most powerful in the world, able to track planets to a precision of 1 meter per

second.

Scientists

Dr. Sandra S. Slutz , Science Buddies Staff Scientist

Sandra always started so many sentences with "how" and "why" that it was clear she'd end up doing experiments to answer those questions. Sandra graduated from the University of Massachusetts, Amherst with a BS in Biology and a minor in Psychology. She recently completed her PhD in Genetics at Stanford University in the laboratory of Dr. Man-Wah Tan. While in the Tan laboratory, Sandra's research focused on how bacterial pathogens are detected by the immune system of *Caenorhabditis elegans*.

Scientists involved in the Academic Outreach Program at Science Buddies

Dr. Liz Young

MIT Post-Doc Researching Renewable Energy Technology
[Water to Fuel to Water: The Fuel Cycle of the Future](#) Project

Dr. Roland Kays

Curator of Mammals at the New York State Museum
[Here Today, Gone Tomorrow: Saving Migratory Birds](#) Project

Scientists from the Ask An Expert Forum

Dr. Melissa Bowlin

Assistant Professor of Biology, University of Michigan, Dearborn
Involved with Academic Outreach Program
Moderator of Ask an Expert Forum
Scientist Advisor to Students in the Ask an Expert Forum

Donna Hardy, Bio-Rad Laboratories

Technical Support Team at Bio-Rad
Specialist in Microbiology and Chromatography
Scientist Advisor to Students in the Ask an Expert Forum (including students who qualified to compete in the Intel ISEF Competition)

Keith Gudger, Retired Electrical Engineer

Background in Electrical Engineering, particularly chip design and robotics
Member of Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE)
Scientist Advisor to Students in the Ask an Expert Forum

Science Teachers

These teachers extensively use Science Buddies throughout the science fair process. They recommend that their students use the Topic Selection Wizard to identify possible topics. They suggest our project ideas to their students, and use Science Buddies project guide resources to educate their students in completing the different stages of a science fair project.

Debra Dimas

Monta Vista High School
Cupertino, CA

12th Grade Science Teacher (this year; teaches all levels of high school science)

Ron Pembleton

Kent Middle School
Marin, CA

8th Grade Science Teacher

Families

Emma Gloudeman (contact Bill Storm, Father)

As a 4th grader, [Emma](#) decided she wanted to participate in the school science fair. Using the Topic Selection Wizard, Emma found an exciting—and electrifying—Project Idea to work on!