Teacher Professional Development Workshop
Challenger Learning Center – St. Louis
September 18, 2012

On Sep 18, 2012, Dr. Erika Gibb and graduate student Anamaria Baluyut (University of Missouri – St. Louis) participated in a teacher professional development workshop at the St. Louis Challenger Learning Center. Twelve local elementary and middle school teachers were present. Dr. Gibb presented a talk titled “Fire and Ice: The impact of comets on life” to help prepare teachers for returning to the Challenger Learning Center with their students to work on a comet mission.

As part of the teacher workshop, Dr. Gibb and Anamaria Baluyut made a model comet out of water, dry ice, dirt, and ammonia. The picture at left shows Anamaria with the model comet at the Challenger Learning Center. Another demonstration involved placing dry ice in a balloon and watching the balloon expand as the dry ice sublimated.

Participation of several teachers was made possible through a Missouri Space Grant Consortium Affiliate Award.