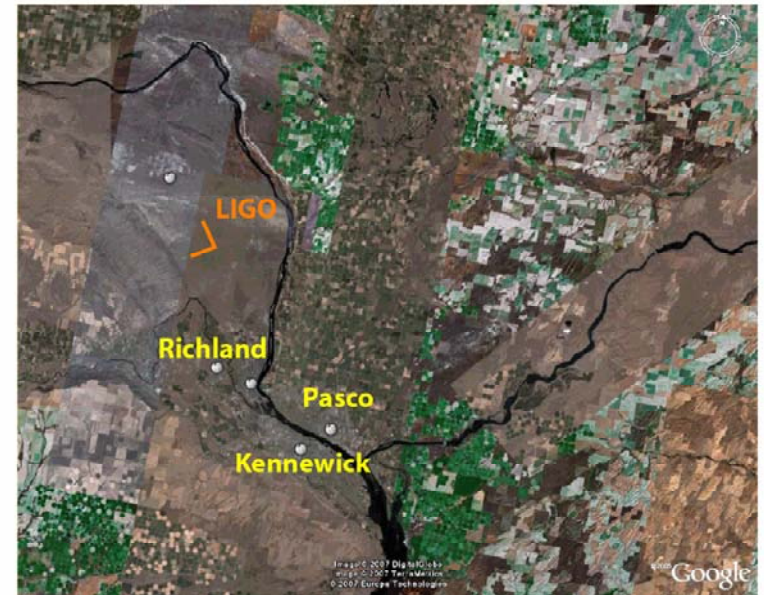


# LIGO Hanford Observatory Education and Outreach, 2007



# Serving the Columbia Basin Region of Southeastern Washington . . .

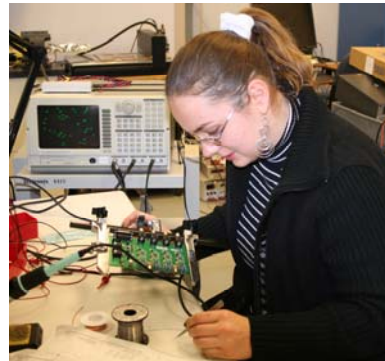


# Faces of the Columbia Basin

- The Tri-Cities has the highest rate of population growth in WA
- The current population of Benton and Franklin Counties is 225,000 (27% Hispanic)
- Hispanics are a majority population in Franklin County (57%)
- Hispanic students represent 70% of the Pasco School District and 34% of Columbia Basin College.
- Eastern European groups are growing in the Pasco area
- Several tribes are in the region



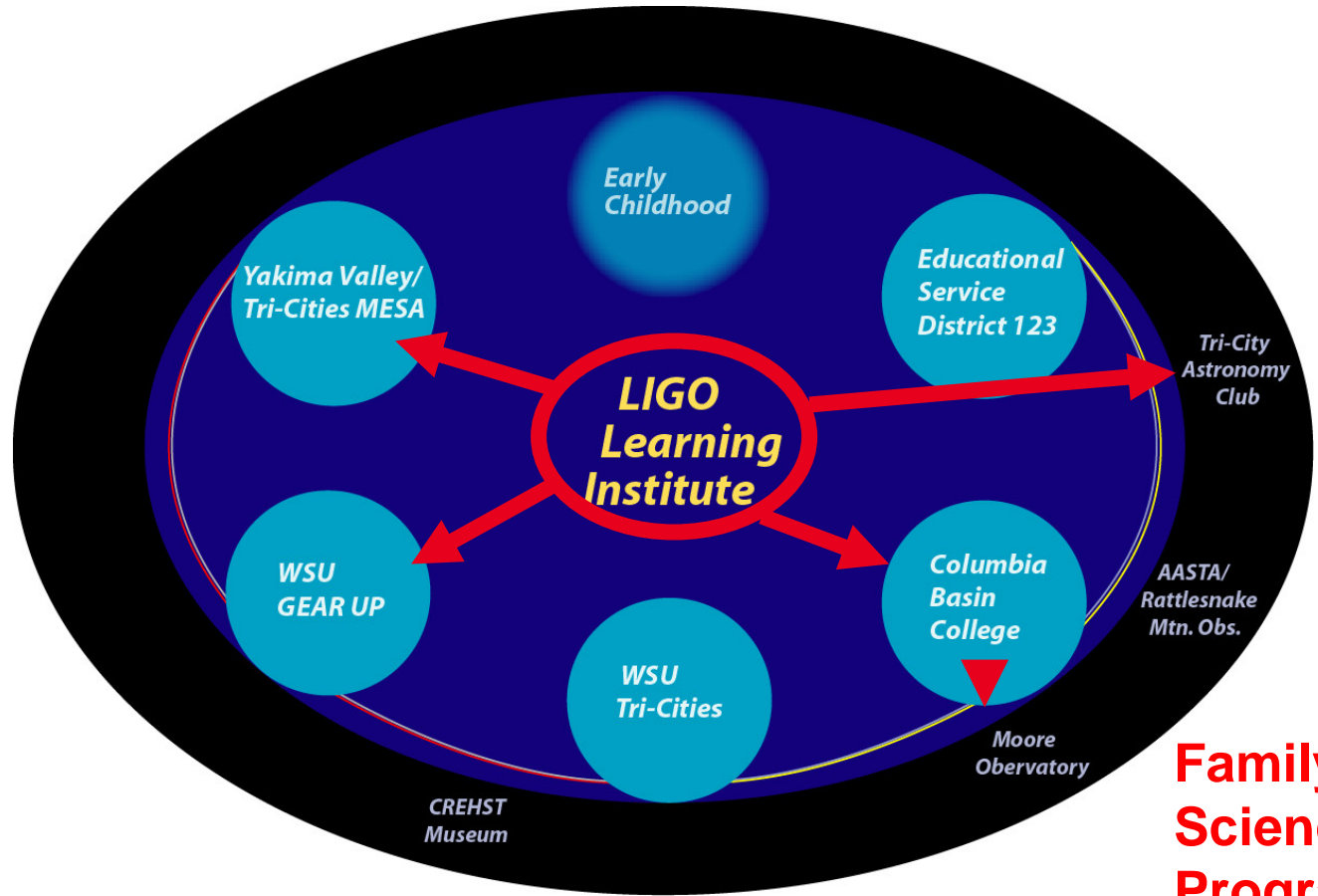
# LIGO: Cutting-edge Science and Engineering in the Heart of the Basin



# LIGO's goal: To shape the science experiences of our residents across the span of lifelong learning



Our Strategy: Build partnerships that strengthen outreach capabilities and leverage our partners' connections to the community.



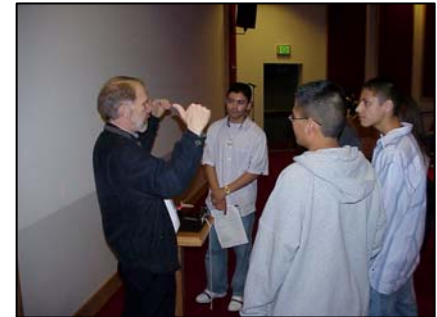
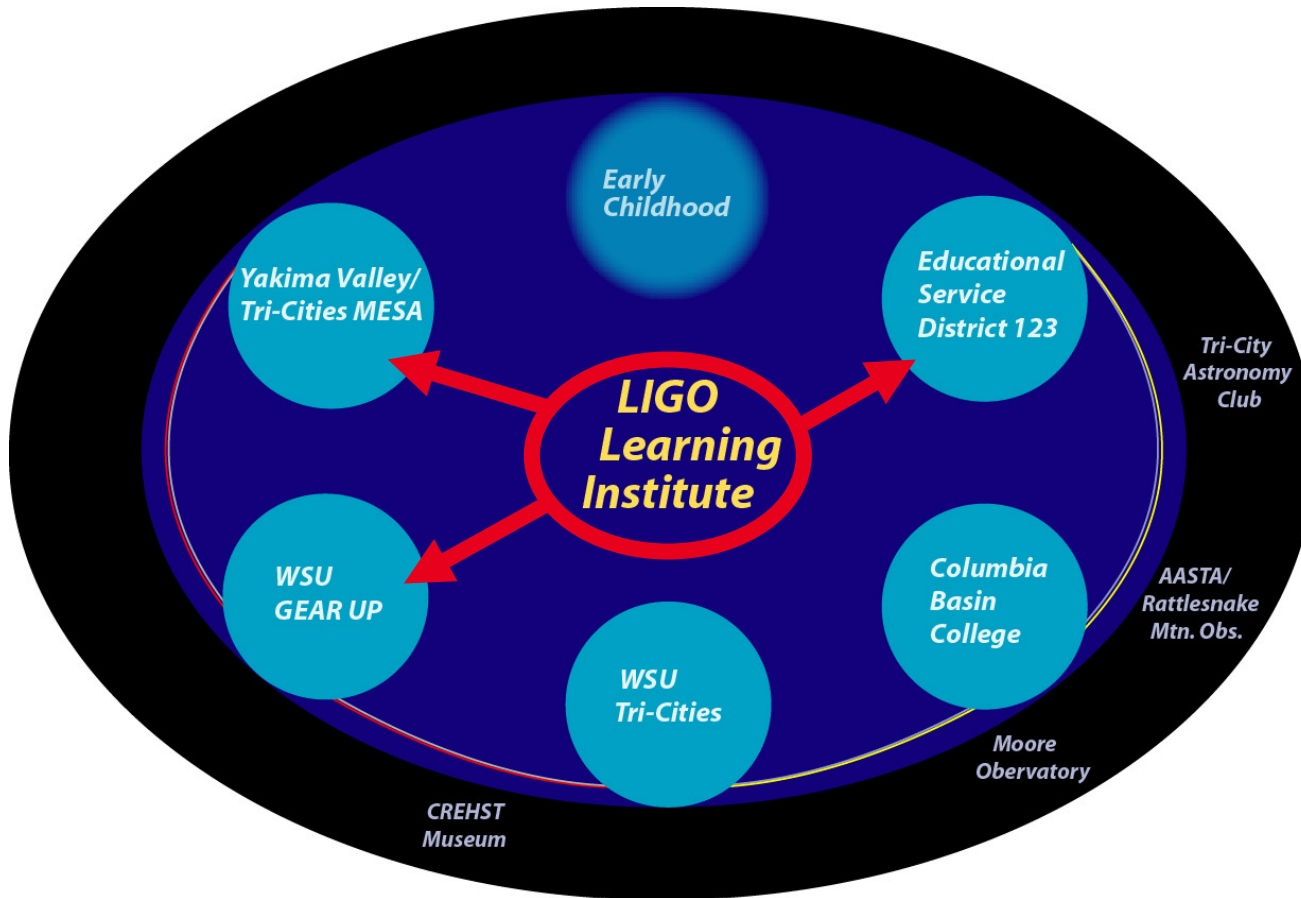
**Family  
Science  
Programs**

Reach the very young through family-oriented events, including bilingual events, that provide hands-on fun and an introduction to LIGO



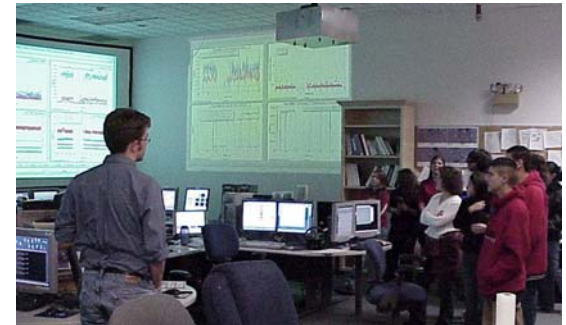
**Acceso la Ciencia: ESI 0610053**

# Middle School and High School: Field Trips, Classroom Visits, Special School Events

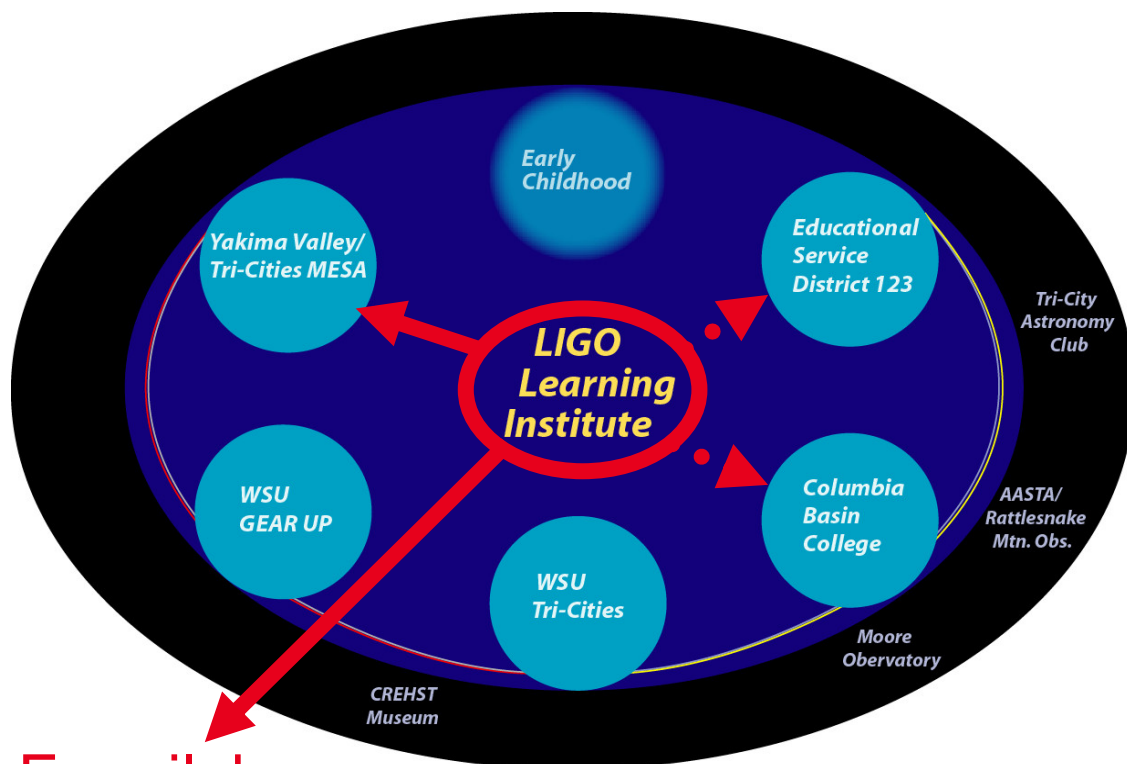




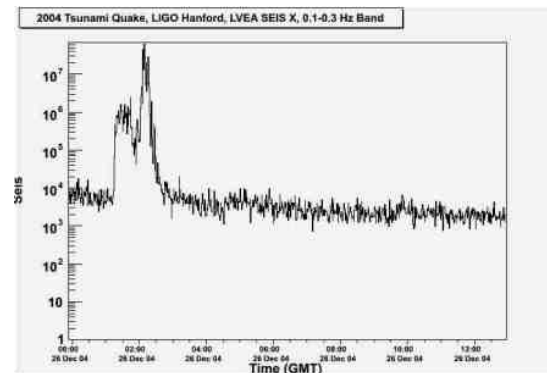
# Hands-on exhibits, staff contacts and control room visits add spice to field trips



# I2U2 puts LIGO environmental data in students' hands

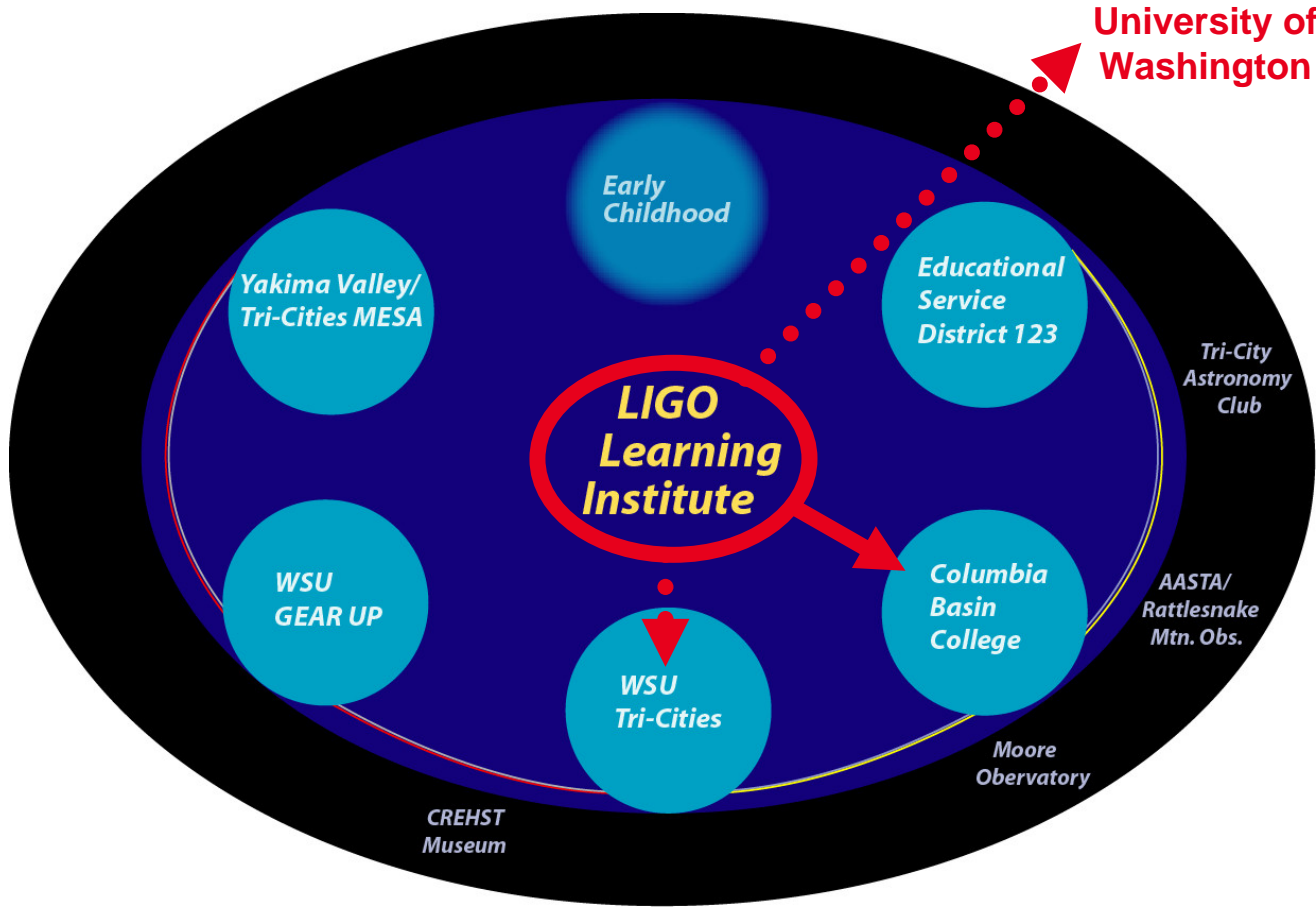


Fermilab

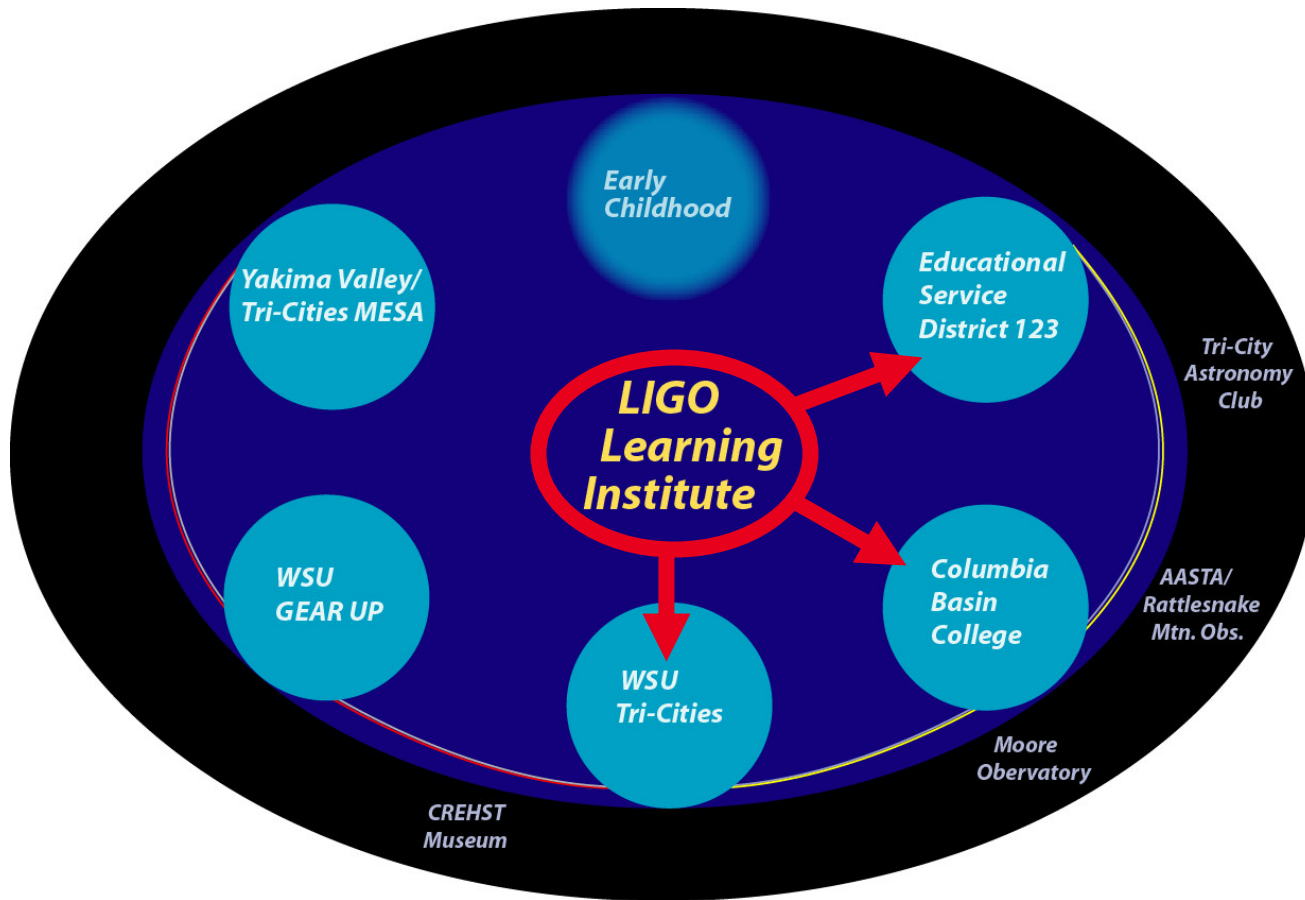


**I2U2: PHY 0636265**

# College/University level: Student internships and Observatory visits; focus on strengthening diversity

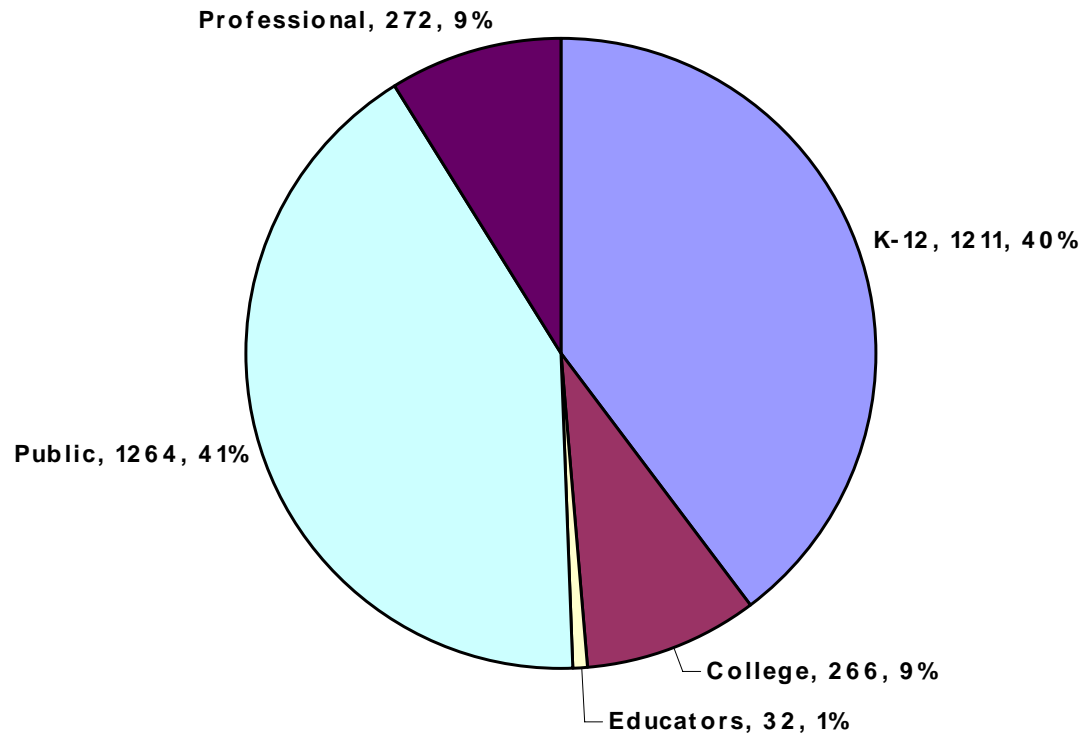


# Math Science Partnership: Teacher Professional Development

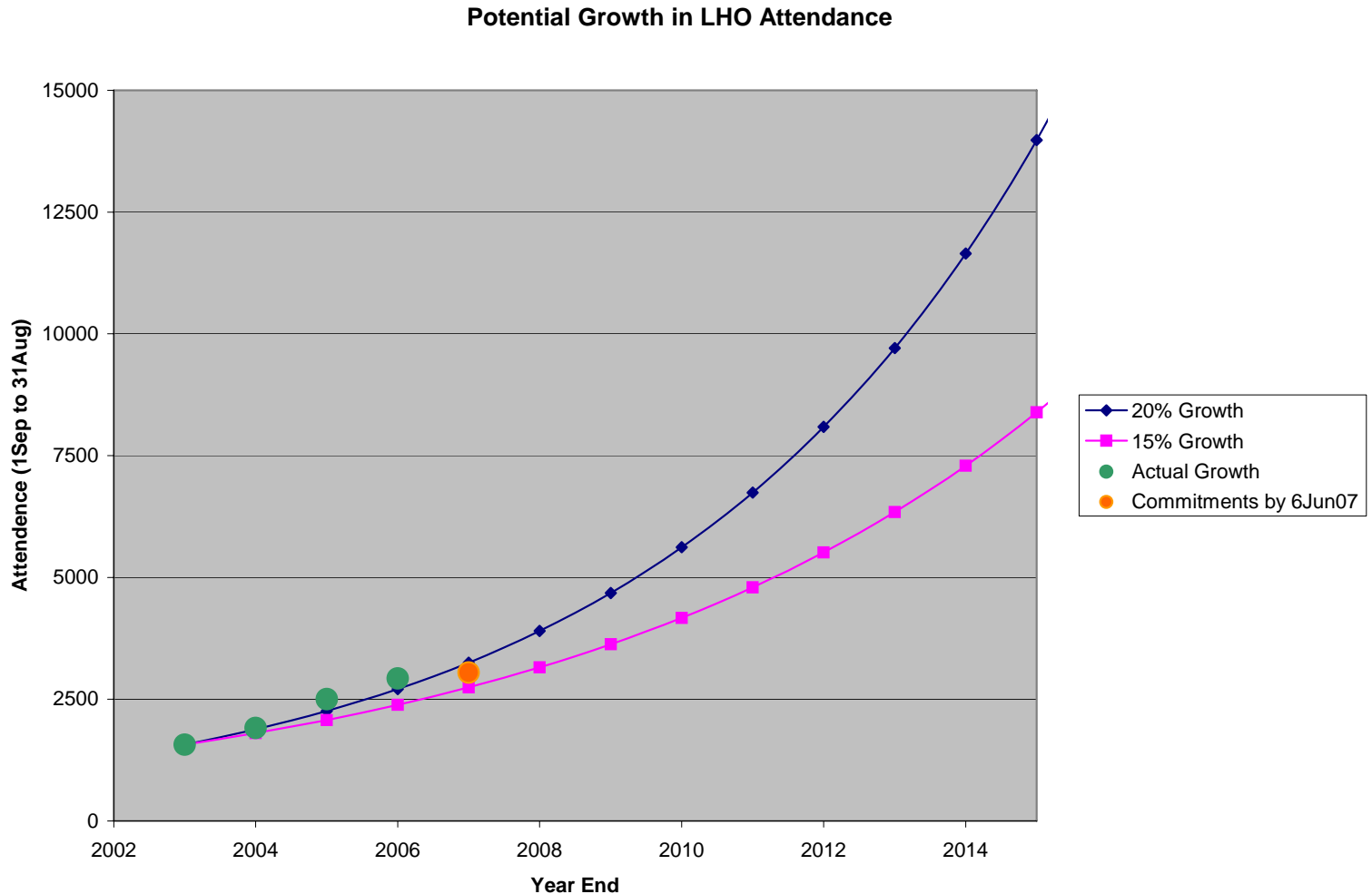


# Current Visitor Attendance by Category

2006-07 LHO Visitor Count (as of 6/5/07)



# Tracking outreach growth



# Recognition

- 2006 Honorable Mention award from the Astronomical League to the Tri-City Astronomy Club for May 2006 Astronomy Day public program. Events partners: LIGO, AASTA, CBC/Moore Observatory, CREHST Museum
- 2006-07 Science Education Advocate award from Washington LASER (Leadership and Assistance for Science Education Reform)
- Chosen by ESD 123 to receive a 2007 Community Award from the Southeastern Washington Association of School Administrators



# The Road Ahead – Building Capacity and Managing Resources to Sustain Growth

- Develop a stronger reach to small schools that populate the region . . . while we . . .
- Scale up the outreach program by increasing the average visitor attendance for field trips and events
- Maximize the value of LIGO's personnel assets . . . while we . . .
- Maintain manageable outreach commitments for busy Observatory staff
- Move forward on focused diversity efforts . . . while we . . .
- Continue to develop broad-based programs and activities that provide engagement and interest for all



6/7/2007



LIGO-G070377-00-G

16