

Education and Public Outreach of the Pierre Auger Observatory

Tuesday 28 July 2009 15:00 (20 minutes)

The scale and scope of the physics studied at the Auger Observatory offer significant opportunities for original outreach work. Education, outreach and public relations of the Auger collaboration are coordinated in a separate task whose goals are to encourage and support a wide range of education and outreach efforts that link schools and the public with the Auger scientists and the science of cosmic rays, particle physics, and associated technologies. The presentation will focus on the impact of the collaboration in Mendoza Province, Argentina, as: the Auger Visitor Center in Malargüe that has hosted over 40,000 visitors since 2001, a collaboration-sponsored science fair held on the Observatory campus in November 2007, the Observatory Inauguration in November 2008, public lectures, school visits, and courses for science teachers. A Google-Earth model of the Observatory and animations of extensive air showers have been created for wide public release. As the collaboration prepares its northern hemisphere site proposal, plans for an enhanced outreach program are being developed in parallel and will be described.

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