

EDUCATIONAL PANEL DISCUSSIONS

Panel format

- Eclipse basic info & types
- Stages of the eclipse and Umbra vs Penumbra
- Science gathered from eclipses
- Science in our local schools
- Safe eclipse viewing instructions
- Questions & Answers

SALINE SOLAR SHADOW

Crete

Doane University
Chab Weyers Education Building, Room 238
2PM & 3PM (Spanish) Sat, Aug 19, 2017
Translator: Yadira (“Yaddy”) Mason

Kelly James, MS

Science educator, Crete

Scott Bohaty, B.S.

Local amateur astronomer &
Night sky photographer

Brad Elder, PhD

Professor of Biology, Doane
Local amateur astronomer

Peter Dowben, PhD

Professor of Physics, UNL

Deborah Bessler, Optometrist, OD

Bessler Family Eye Care, Crete

Wilber

Wilber-Clatonia School
1PM Sun, Aug 20, 2017

Ellie Binder, MS

Science, chemistry & physics educator Wilber-
Clatonia

Scott Bohaty, B.S.

Local amateur astronomer &
Night sky photographer

Brad Elder, PhD

Professor of Biology, Doane
Local amateur astronomer

Peter Dowben, PhD

Professor of Physics, UNL

Nicole Morrissey, Optometrist, OD

Downtown Family Vision, Wilber

Biographies

Panel Moderator

Brad Elder, PhD

Professor of Biology, Doane University

Dr. Elder is a professor of Biology at Doane University. His research revolves around fire ecology. He has spent the last several years researching wildland firefighter safety and has been a prescribed and wildland firefighter for 26 years, working with local/national land owners and managers. He has recently returned from Africa teaching women impacted by HIV/AIDS how to make and sell their own mosquito nets. A space geek and general science nerd, he is making Sr. Isaac Newton’s original speculum metal bronze telescope mirror as a hobby.

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Panel Members

Kelly James, MS

Science educator, Crete

Kelly James has been teaching science for more than 15 years. Her love for teaching began to flourish when she was a teacher's assistant for the UNL Astronomy department. She especially enjoyed observation nights. Kelly is married with three children (Austin, Abby, and Addison) and a stepdaughter (Taylor).

Ellie Binder, MS

Science, chemistry & physics educator Wilber-Clatonia

Ellie Binder has been a science teacher in Wilber for the past five years teaching physical sciences (science 8 and 9, chemistry and physics). Prior to her work in Wilber, she was a chemist. Ellie has a Master's Degree in Environmental Chemistry from UNL and a Master's of Education Degree from the University of Phoenix.

Scott Bohaty, BS

Local amateur astronomer & Night sky photographer

Scott Bohaty works for the Natural Resources Conservation Service, an agency of the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), in Wilber. He holds a Bachelor of Science degree from the University of Nebraska in Natural Resources and Environmental Economics. Scott is a regular member of the Prairie Astronomy Club in Lincoln and is an avid wide field photographer of the night sky.

Peter Dowben, PhD

Professor of Physics, UNL

Dr. Peter Dowben is a Charles Bessey Professor of Physics at the University of Nebraska (UNL). Peter's expertise and research centers on the frontiers of quantum mechanics in ways that have the potential to change integrated circuits and computers. He has contributed to more than 20 patents, owned by the state of Nebraska, as an inventor and has published more than 500 scientific papers. Peter has recently taken over as the faculty lead on Nebraska's student research project to study the physics of the sun's atmosphere and the safety of astronauts in space.

Deborah Bessler, Optometrist, OD

Bessler Family Eye Care, Crete

Dr. Deborah Bessler is a graduate of Leigh High School and received a BA degree from Doane University in Crete, NE. She taught middle school science for six years before attending the University of Missouri to receive her Doctor of Optometry. Dr. Bessler is a member of the AOA and NOA and is a See to Learn provider. Her husband Chris is the Defensive Coordinator for football at Doane University. She and Chris have four children: Cale, Reagan, Logan, and Macey. In her spare time she enjoys reading, running, and spending time with family and friends.

Nicole Morrissey, Optometrist, OD

Downtown Family Vision, Wilber

Dr. Nicole Morrissey has been providing quality eye care for nearly a decade in southeast Nebraska. She was raised in Bruning and attended the University of Nebraska, Lincoln for her undergraduate degree. She then attended Northeastern State University, Oklahoma College of Optometry for her doctorate in optometry. Dr. Morrissey received her fellowship in vision development in 2013. Dr. Morrissey currently resides in De Witt, where her husband, Nate, is the band director at Tri-County Public Schools. She and Nate have four children: Lucy, Norah, Stella, and Spencer. In her spare time, she likes to spend time with friends and family, bake, attend Husker sporting events (Go Big Red!), and listen to music.