June 1, 2012

Dear Potential Student Research Mentor:

The student presenting you with this letter is applying to the Alaska Space Grant Program for an undergraduate research fellowship. The Alaska Space Grant Program (ASGP) is a participant in the National Space Grant College and Fellowship Program. Fellowships are awarded to students who are U. S. citizens and who are majoring in science, technology, engineering, and/or mathematics (STEM) fields (Research Fellowship) or education (Education Research Fellowships) at an Alaskan institution of higher education. Students are required to obtain a faculty mentor and to propose a research project in a STEM or Education field. Preference is given to projects that are relevant to NASA’s interests.

As part of the application process the student is required to obtain a letter of collaboration from a mentor who intends to mentor the student in the completion of the proposed research project. This letter should indicate the agreement of the mentor to serve in that capacity for the duration of the award.

As a mentor your responsibilities may include:

- Assisting the student design a manageable project.
- Assisting the student identify relevance of the project to NASA.
- Meeting with the student regularly throughout the year to insure adequate progress on the project.
- Providing guidance to the student so they can successfully accomplish the project objectives.

Mentors are pivotal in ensuring the success of the student experience. We hope that you take this opportunity to support this student’s research experience thereby helping to grow our next generation of scientists, engineers, and educators.

Denise Thorsen, Director
Alaska Space Grant Program