1. **NSTA** (HMI/Stanford in conjunction with NSF/CISM)
   The National Science Teachers Association (NSTA) held its annual meeting in March in San Francisco. HMI scientist Todd Hoeksema gave the "AGU lecture" 11 March: Our Eye on the Sun - the Latest from SDO - the Solar Dynamics Observatory. Topics included: “The Sun is constantly changing in dramatic ways - from sunspots to solar flares. The Solar Dynamics Observatory observes our star continuously, revealing mysteries of the deep interior and the incredibly hot atmosphere. How can we peer inside a star? What causes the solar cycle? How does the Sun store and release energy? How does the energy reach our planet and affect our lives? Spectacular movies are just the beginning.”

Nicholas Gross (Boston U., CISM) and Deborah Scherrer (Stanford) gave a teacher workshop on the SID instrument and materials. Attending teachers received SuperSIDs free of charge.

Romeo Durscher and Camilla attended and worked the NASA booth. Unfortunately, teachers at the NSTA view the NASA booth as a “Give-away Fest” and rarely had time to interact with Camilla or other staff. NASA is working on ways to improve this situation.

2. **Report from Uruguay SID Site** (HMI with NSF/CISM)
   Our teacher in Uruguay, Patricia Carabelli, who has put together a multi-year astronomy unit based on the SID monitors, reports: “Last week some of the kids and I attended a videoconference given by the astronaut Franklin Chang Diaz. It was very interesting and the children were really delighted and they felt the talk was very meaningful. I was AMAZED about how much they had understood and they ALL took notes as if they were at University; at least in high school. I was really impressed. They had been chosen as delegates for their classes and they had to tell the other students what the astronaut said, so their interest plus the responsibility probably produced amazing results. I also believe that as we have been working in the [SID] project and talking about it so much, working thoroughly with
space notions, as they had the vocabulary and background knowledge, they understood. Children from 8 to 11 years old went.” Note that this age-group is generally younger than we would target for a SID monitor. However, their teacher is so extraordinary that these students have able to work with and comprehend their data as well as use the SID project as a jumping-off point to astronomy and solar science in general.

3. **Social Media** (SDO/HMI/Stanford)

_Contact: Romeo Durscher <romeo@sun.stanford.edu>

What an amazing month we had! Not only did we break the 1,000,000-views-in-30-days mark on Little SDO’s Facebook fan page, but we are now at 1.3M views. Post feedback increased from 8k in February to 14k in March, which indicates that our content creates reactions. We are getting a lot of questions, some easy to answer others more difficult. With the earthquake in Japan we had lots of "solar activity & earthquake" questions, which are very difficult to answer since even within NASA there are different opinions. Also, our YouTube channel spiked in Japan during March, most likely because of the earthquake as well.

**BTS-1 Mission Update (Balloon Transport System – 1st Flight)**

BTS-1, Camilla’s balloon adventure, will launch on May 8, 2011 out of Houston. There was a contest to name the capsule, with the winning name chosen: *Inspiration*. We are currently in talks with the Smithsonian Air and Space Museum to accept the capsule after the flight as an Education and Public Outreach display.

*Inspiration*

*BTS-1 Crew (Camilla SDO, Skye Blue (American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics), Fuzz Aldrin (BearsOnPatrol.org)*

After the LWS/SDO meeting in Tahoe we will be heading to Houston. Part of the Goddard team will come to assist us for launch and recovery. Through the University of Houston and the Discovery Dome Team we are going to have students actively involved during the launch and flight.
We must recover the capsule not only to get the video footage but the science readings of one of the instruments, the ozonesonde. Also, we are flying a donated item, which has previously flown to Space on Columbia, and need to return it.

Max-Q Entertainment will do our video post production and make a good documentary of the pre and post flight footage, as well as the views during the flight.

![Sun Earth Day Logo made by one of the Tweet-up attendees!](image)

**NASA Sun-Earth Day Tweetup at Goddard & Air And Space Museum**

On Saturday we had the Sun Earth Day Tweetup. Invited were 100 people to participate from 8 AM to 10 PM in a variety of activities. The group was bused to the Smithsonian Air and Space Museum, where we watched the STEREO 3D IMAX movie, then attended various demonstrations about Earth and Sun observations, including solar viewing telescopes and an SDO display.

At noon the visitors were bused back to Goddard, had lunch and then at 1 PM we had a live NASA Edge Webcast "Sun Earth Day 2011" with solar experts answering questions. The one hour program was very well done, fun, interactive and people loved it.

After the webcast the group was split into four groups and toured various buildings, from mission control centers (AURA, Landsat, LRO) to clean rooms (GPM, James Webb), to various testing chambers. Phil Chamberlain did a great SDO development segment for us.

During dinner Dean Pesnell attended and did a few fun entertainment and education pieces about the SDO mission and Sun Earth Day. In the evening we went to the Laser Ranging Facility.

For the Tweet-Up, the potential impressions topped out at just under 4 million people. (This number is extrapolated based on the number of people tweeting and the size of their respective networks.)
Camilla SDO became a “Trending Topic” in the Washington DC area, right behind Air and Space, the morning host of the NASA Sun Earth Day Tweetup:

Smithsonian Air and Space Blog
http://blog.nasm.si.edu/2011/04/03/jumping-in-tweet-first/

Pictures from the Tweetup (no log-in required):

NASA Edge Sun-Earth Day Webcast:
http://www.ustream.tv/recording/13428896