DURING SECOND HALF OF CSUN’S FALL 2015 SEMESTER PLANETARIUM PROGRAMS WILL BE PRESENTED AS SCHEDULED BELOW. WEATHER PERMITTING TELESCOPE VIEWING OF CELESTIAL OBJECTS USING CSUN’S CAMPUS TELESCOPE WILL FOLLOW EACH PROGRAM.

Fri Oct-23 7:30pm  Autumn Sky Show.  
Come and learn about stars and constellations and planets visible in the sky during autumn of this year.

8:30 pm  Magellan: Report from Venus.  
This weekend Venus, Mars and Jupiter will be in conjunction and be seen in the eastern morning sky just before sunrise. Tonight’s program will pay tribute to Venus, our sister planet. Of all the planets in our solar system Venus is most like the Earth in size and mass. Furthermore, it comes closer to Earth than any of the other planets. But until recently not much was known about its surface conditions because of Venus’s dense and extensive clouds keep us from seeing the surface directly. Tonight’s narrated slide program recaps the accomplishments of the NASA’s Magellan mission to Venus and takes audience on a “grand” tour of our “sister planet”. The program follows Magellan’s progress from its launch through the most significant discoveries which made this mission the most successful missions ever sent to explore Venus.

Fri Nov-06 7:30pm  Autumn Sky Show.  
Come and learn about stars and constellations and planets visible in the sky during autumn of this year.

8:30 pm  MarsQuest.  
MarsQuest is a chronicle tracing our centuries-long cultural and scientific fascination with the planet Mars. Set in a theatrical style “three-act” form with an epilogue, it weaves a satisfying narrative of what Mars means to humanity. In the first act, “Homage”, we trace Mars through history from early cultures to the “canals” which led to famous science fiction stories about Martians. Next act, “Mars in Focus”, details the Mars of our time – as seen in the night sky through binoculars and telescopes and as discovered from our recent Mars robotic exploration. Finally, “Mars in the Future” examines what will be needed to get a manned mission to the Red Planet and what the first landing there might be like. The program ends with “Rhapsody in a Red Planet”, a poetically styled “ode to Mars”, this time from a future perspective; an eloquent soliloquy tracing efforts that led to humanity’s first footsteps onto the desolate and dusty Martian surface. This show was produced in collaboration with the Space Science Institute and it is narrated by Patrick Stewart.

Fri Nov-20 7:30pm  Autumn Sky Show.  
Come and learn about stars and constellations and planets visible in the sky during late autumn of this year.

8:30pm  Hubble Vision: A fascinating tour of the cosmos - from Earth orbit.  
Celebrating 25th anniversary since its launch in 1990, the Hubble Space Telescope has provided incredible images of great details to astronomers, and made an astonishing array of discoveries – from objects in our solar system to the most distant galaxies at limits of the observable universe. In this narrated slide program we catch glimpses of solar system objects, such as the Moon, clouds on dusty Mars, a comet's crash into Jupiter, storms on Saturn, Uranus and Neptune, and the faraway worlds around Pluto. Beyond our solar system we explore protoplanetary disks in Orion and other regions of star births; we also view the deaths of stars like our Sun and the cataclysmic aftermath of a supernova explosion. Finally we observe colliding galaxies, jets of particles shooting from active galactic nuclei powered by supermassive black holes, the effects of gravitational lenses, and deep-field views of the most distant galaxies ever seen.

Thu Dec-03 7:30pm  Autumn/Winter Sky Show.  
Come and learn about stars and constellations and planets visible in the sky during this time of a year.

8:30pm  We Are at Pluto – the New Horizons Mission.  
When the New Horizons Mission was launched in 2006, Pluto was the only planet unexplored. Pluto is still much more than something that is “not a planet”, with at least five moons orbiting around it, an atmosphere, seasons, and exotic frosts on its surface. This past July the New Horizons finally reached and flew by Pluto and its moons collecting a wealth of data. Scientists have already teased out some tantalizing close up images and results on this dwarf ice planet. They will be presented in tonight’s talk by Dr. Bonnie J. Buratti who is a Principal Scientist and technical advisor at JPL.

For show information: call 818-677- 5601, or go to the following web site:
www.csun.edu/science-mathematics/physics-astronomy/planetarium

For ticket purchase: call 818-677-2488 or go to AS Ticket Office (in USU), open 10 am – 6 pm
Tickets: general admission - $6 for one show, $10 for two shows
student admission - $4 for one show, $7 for two shows