

Mesa student invited to NASA aerospace workshop

A student at Mesa Community College was invited to attend the National Community College Aerospace Scholars on-site workshop in November at NASA Johnson Space Center in Houston, Texas.

Karina Aguilar will compete in an engineering design challenge on teams with other high-achieving community college students from throughout the U.S. The teams have access to NASA staff, missions and facilities as they learn more about careers in science and engineering, according to a press release.

Ms. Aguilar has been commended by the NCCAS for the dedication she put forth in the online session as well as the quality of her assignment submissions, according to the

See **Education** — Page 13

Education

Continued From Page 12

release. Winning scholars are chosen based on online module scores, completed application and overall mission design.

"This opportunity has opened doors for previous MCC students who were selected," Duane Oakes, faculty director for the MCC Center for Community and Civic Engagement, said in the release. "It's an opportunity that will surely be life-changing."

While at NASA, students form teams and establish fictional companies interested in Mars exploration, according to the release. Each team is responsible for developing a prototype rover, designing a 3-D model of their rover and forming a company infrastructure.

"The NASA program will help me experience a unique opportunity to explore what sort of professions I would be able to do with my major," Ms. Aguilar said in the release. "As my current plan is to go to medical school for neurosurgery, I hope to integrate engineering with medicine so as to develop new technology."

For more information, visit www.mesacc.edu.