



## ISDC 2025 Session Schedule

### Mars

As of 5/18/25

#### Saturday, June 21 Salon 13/14

- 10:00 am Invited Talk: Martian Visions: A Brief History of Big Ideas and Misguided Belief That Paved Our Journey to the Red Planet. Marc Hartzman (Author, 'The Big Book of Mars')
- 10:20 am Mars Robotic Exploration: Past, Present, and Future. Ken Ruffin (National Space Society)
- 10:35 am The Viking Lander Labeled Release Experiment (LRE): Did It Find Evidence for Life? Varvara Sofou (Mars Institute)
- 10:50 am NSS Student Space Settlement Contest Presentation
- 11:05 am Fireside Chat: Taking to the Martian Skies: Aerial Platforms in Future Robotic and Human Mars Exploration. Dr Pascal Lee (NASA Ames Research Center) & Rod Pyle (Ad Astra Magazine)
- 11:25 am Drone Imaging in the Arctic as an Analog for Future Mars Chopper Missions. Nicolas Mahoume (NSS-Supported Haughton-Mars Project Apollo Fellow 2025)
- 11:40 am Nighthawk: A New Mars Chopper Mission Concept Building on Ingenuity's Legacy. Derric Loya (SETI Institute)
- 11:55 am Open Forum: Call for Input to NSS Mars Strategy. Dr. Pascal Lee (National Space Society)
- 12:00 noon END
- 2:00 pm Invited Talk: Multi Sensory Virtual Simulations of Mars Exploration. Bryan Versteeg (Spacehabs.com)
- 2:15 pm Development of the Magnetic Reconnection Rocket for High-Power Nuclear Electric Propulsion. Dr. David Chesny (SpaceWave)
- 2:30 pm Energy Needs for Mars Development - Propellant, Food, Industry, Nuclear, and Solar. Dr. Christopher Morrison (Space Nuclear Power Corporation)
- 2:45 pm Where the Aurora Dances: How Remote Tribes Inspire Life Off-World. Nick Georges (Astra Nova)
- 3:00 pm Charting the Unknown: Applying Amundsen's Antarctic Masterclass to Mars Exploration. Dr. Erik Seedhouse (Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University)
- 3:15 pm NSS Student Space Settlement Contest Presentation
- 3:30 pm Astronaut+ATV Combo: Solution to the Mars Spacesuit Weight Problem. Dr. Pascal Lee (SETI Institute)
- 3:45 pm A Motorcycle for Mars. Kiefer Juliano (Mars Institute)
- 4:00 pm Pathways on Mars: Preliminary Pressurized Rover Traverses from Noctis Landing, a Candidate Landing Site and Exploration Zone for Humans on Mars. Scarlett Hartzman (Mars Institute)
- 4:15 pm Invited Talk: Steps Towards Sustainable Mars Habitats - Using Regolith in Plant-Based Life Support Systems. Dr. Anna-Lisa Paul (University of Florida)
- 4:35 pm Panel 1: Humans To Mars: The Near Future.  
Panelists: Dr. Robert Ferl (University of Florida), Tariq J. Malik (Space.com), Camisha L. Simmons (Simmons Legal), Dale Skran (National Space Society). Moderator: Dr. Pascal Lee (National Space Society).
- 5:15 pm Panel 2: Humans To Mars: The Great Future.  
Panelists: Joe Haldeman (Author, 'Marsbound'), Marc Hartzman (Author, 'The Big Book of Mars'), Dr Anna-Lisa Paul (University of Florida), Rod Pyle (Ad Astra Magazine). Moderator: Dr. Pascal Lee (National Space Society).
- 5:55 pm Open Forum: Humans To Mars: Final Thoughts.  
Moderator: Dr. Pascal Lee (National Space Society)
- 6:00 pm END