



As of 5/6/26

Friday, June 5

Registration
8:00 am - 7:00 pm

Foyer

Morning Plenary
8:30 am - 9:45 am

International BC
Panel: *Space Industry*

Student Registration
9:00 am - 3:30 pm

International A
Registration for students in the NSS Gerard K. O'Neill Space Settlement Contest and the *Live in a Healthy Space* Design Competition.

NextGen Program
10:00 am - 10:45 am

International BC
FEATURED SPEAKER: Robert "Hoot" Gibson, Former NASA Chief Astronaut
MC: Holly Melear, CEO & Founder of STEAMSPACE Education Outreach® & the Cities in Space Events®

Exhibitors
10:00 am - 6:00 pm

Atrium
Please visit the exhibitor, sponsor and NSS exhibit tables

10:00 am - 12:00 noon

Morning Sessions

Interstellar

- 10:00 am
- 10:05 am
- 10:25 am
- 10:45 am
- 11:00 am
- 11:15 am
- 11:30 am
- 11:45 am

Statler (lower level)

- Inauguration of Interstellar Track. Isaac Arthur and Pascal Lee (National Space Society)
- Generation Ships: The Giant Approach to Interstellar Travel. Isaac Arthur (National Space Society)
- Interstellar Travel Enabled by Artificially Intelligent Android Astronauts. Dr. Pascal Lee (SETI Institute)
- Interstellar Settlement via Android Astronauts and Human Cloning. Leo Shiina (Stanford Online High School)
- The Cloning Frontier: Redefining Risk in Long-Duration Space Exploration. Dr. Erik Seedhouse (Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University)
- Review of Carbonaceous Allotropes and their Application as Photonic Sail Materials. Joseph Meany (Interstellar Research Group)
- Maintaining Mutual Intelligibility Over Deep Time. Mark Cochran (Public Capital Foundation)
- Open Forum: Making Interstellar Travel Happen. Moderators: Isaac Arthur and Pascal Lee (National Space Society)

Space Business

- 10:00 am
- 10:30 am
- 11:00 am
- 11:30 am

Dallas

- Space Capital: The Tipping Point of a New Frontier. Roseanne Healy (Enterprise Corporation)
- Programmable Finance in Orbit: How Smart Capital Could Power the Space Economy. James Anthony Wolff (Greenspoon Marder LLP)
- Building Empires in the Sky: The Legal Frameworks for Safeguarding Property Rights and Interests in Off-Earth Assets, Territory and Areas of Operations. Camisha Simmons (Simmons Legal PLLC)
- An Interactive Commercial Space Station Cost Simulator. Jim Plaxco (Chicago Society for Space Studies)

Space Settlement

- 10:00 am
- 11:00 am

Beverly

- Updates on the Rotating Space Settlement Design Project. Dale Skran (National Space Society)
- Designing Farms in Space: Balances for Life Support, Food and Settlement. Latest Technologies for Closing the Mass Flow Loop in Space Settlements. Bryce Meyer (St. Louis Space Frontier)



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Space Solar Power Symposium	
10:00 am	
10:15 am	
10:30 am	
10:45 am	
11:00 am	
11:15 am	
11:30 am	
11:40 am	

Amphitheater (lower level)	
	SPACE Canada 2026 International Space Solar Power Student Competition. Haroon Oqab (SPACE Canada)
	Space Solar Power Student Competition Competitor #1
	Space Solar Power Student Competition Competitor #2
	Space Solar Power Student Competition Competitor #3
	Space Solar Power Student Competition Competitor #4
	Space Solar Power Student Competition Competitor #5
	Space Solar Power Student Competition Competitor #6
	Multi-domain Operations Using Rapidly-responsive Phased Energy Universally Synchronized (MORPHEUS). Haroon Oqab (Metasat)

Student Activities	
11:00 am - 3:00 pm	

Continental B	
STEM activities with NSS SpacEdge Education. Engage in team building, engineering, critical thinking, and prototype activities.	

Lunch	
12:00 noon - 1:50 pm	

International BC	
KEYNOTE SPEAKER: Jeffrey Manber, Special Representative to the Chairman and CEO, Voyager Technologies	
MC: Camisha L. Simmons, Principal Managing Member, Simmons Legal PLLC.	

Student Activities	
12:30 pm - 2:00 pm	

Fowler (lower level)	
Mini Space Elevator Workshop. Engineering with World Space Elevator Competitions	

Poster Session	
1:30 pm - 3:30 pm	
(International A closed during lunch: 12:00 noon - 1:30 pm)	

International A	
Contest students' posters on display with the student presenters representing entries in the NSS Gerard K. O'Neill Space Settlement Contest and the <i>Live in a Healthy Space</i> Design Competition.	

2:00 pm - 6:00 pm	
Planetary Defense	
2:00 pm	
2:05 pm	
2:18 pm	
2:34 pm	
2:47 pm	
3:00 pm	
3:16 pm	
3:29 pm	
3:42 pm	
3:55 pm	
4:08 pm	
4:23 pm	
4:36 pm	
4:49 pm	

Afternoon Sessions	
Statler (lower level)	
	Opening Remarks: The NSS ISDC Planetary Defense Program, "Look Up: It's an Asteroid." Nancy C. Wolfson (American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics.)
	Exploring NEO Types, Orbits, and Impacts. Stevan Akerley (National Space Society Space Ambassador)
	Lessons from 2024 YR4: The Role of JWST and Space Telescopes in Planetary Defense. Dr. Andrew Rivkin (Johns Hopkins University)
	Financing Planetary Defense: Legal and Capital Frameworks for Asteroid Risk Mitigation. James Wolff (Greenspoon Marder LLP)
	Novel Opportunistic Missions for NEO Exploration. Madhu Thangavelu (University of Southern California)
	From Transients to Threats: Leveraging Astrophysical Surveys for Planetary Defense. Quanzhi Ye (University of Maryland)
	Asteroid Impact Protection Long Term Solution. Michael Helton (Helton Associates)
	Improving Orbit Determination for Planetary Defense. Maryann Benny Fernandes (Duke University)
	Modern Day Space Elevators – New Missions for Planetary Defense. Dr. Peter Swan (International Space Elevator Consortium)
	The International Year of Planetary Defence (IYPD 2029): Navigating the Roles of IAWN, SMPAG, and UN-COPUOS. Nancy C. Wolfson (American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics.)
	NSS Student Space Settlement Contest Presentation
	Disarming Nuclear Inventories and Preventing NEO Impacts. Ayden Frey (Wolfpack CubeSat Development Team)
	Why Post-Quantum Security is Non-Negotiable for Space Systems and Planetary Defense. Dr. Wolfgang Rohde (CyberSpace Security)
	TERP RAPTOR: A "Mass"ive Improvement in Asteroid Mass Measurements for Planetary Defense. Adrienne Rudolph (University of Maryland)



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5:02 pm	A Tale of Two Asteroids: Chelyabinsk 2013 and Apophis 2029. Ken Ruffin (Founder, Didymos Consulting LLC)
5:15 pm	Orbital Sunk-Cost Recovery: Converting High-energy Scrap into Comprehensive Planetary Defense Infrastructure. Lev Reznikov (Sagittarius Space)
5:28 pm	Can AI-Driven Autonomous Orbital Debris Capture and Collision Prevention Networks Bolster Planetary Defense? Harsh Verma (Defence Institute of Advanced Technology)
5:41 pm	We're All Going To Die! (The Case for Urgency). Jerry Stone (Spaceflight UK)
5:54 pm	Closing Remarks. Nancy C. Wolfson (American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics.)
Space Business	Dallas
2:00 pm	Inter-continental Panel: Astronomical Risk/Reward Horizons: Building & Investing in the Space Realm. Moderator: Lisa La Bonté (Carnegie Ventures)
3:00 pm	The Lunar Space Elevator: From Research to Revenue. Michael J. Laine (LiftPort Group)
3:30 pm	From Prototype to Orbit: Building a Space Company the Hard Way (and Why That's an Advantage). Joe Latrell (Quub, Inc.)
4:00 pm	Solving the Space Access Bottleneck with Business Logic. Mordy Friedman (World Space Elevator Competitions)
4:30 pm	De-bundled: How Hardware-Software Partnerships Are Reshaping the Space Ecosystem. Lee
5:00 pm	From Orbital Debris Mitigation to Circular Space Infrastructure: Designing Scalable Stewardship in Low Earth Orbit. Sandy Therrien (Blue Moon Space Operations)
5:30 pm	Three Keys to Winning Space Contracts. Doug Owens (Space Outcomes LLC)
Space Settlement	Beverly
2:00 pm	Innovative Design for Efficient Artificial Gravity in Long Duration Space Missions. Muhammed Marzooq (University of Calicut)
2:30 pm	No Blueprint for the Moon: Fascinations and Risks of Lunar Architecture. Dr. Caitlin Ahrens (NASA Goddard Space Flight Center)
3:30 pm	NSS Student Space Settlement Contest Presentation
3:45 pm	ISRU Construction Activities for Sustainable Lunar and Martian Settlement. Melodie Yashar (AENARA)
4:45 pm	NSS Student Space Settlement Contest Presentation
5:00 pm	System and Sustainability Determinants of Life in Space: A Framework for Human Health and Sustainable Settlements Beyond Earth. Dr. Jennifer Young (University of the Cumberland)
5:30 pm	Making Space Human-Friendly with Artificial Gravity. Jules Ross (Joules Space Technology)
Space Solar Power Symposium	Amphitheater (lower level)
2:00 pm	Japanese Space Solar Power. Koji Tanaka (JAXA)
2:15 pm	Topics in Space Solar Power. Massimiliano Vasile (University of Strathclyde)
2:30 pm	Lunar Science & Infrastructure Power Requirements. Anastasia Ford (NASA)
2:45 pm	Results of the 2024-2026 Space Solar Power Study. John C. Mankins (Mankins Space Technology)
4:45 pm	Lightning Panel: Space Solar Power Incentives, Functionality, and Tractability. Moderator: John C. Mankins (Mankins Space Technology)
5:45 pm	Closing Remarks. John C. Mankins (Mankins Space Technology) and Gary P. Barnhard (Xtraordinary Innovative Space Partnerships)
Rising Stars	Stevens (lower level)
2:00 pm	Welcome and Introductions. Burt Dicht (National Space Society) and Robert Katz (World Innovation Network)
	Block 1: Space Policy, Law & Governance
2:10 pm	Regulatory Sandboxes as a Governance Tool for the Emerging Space Economy: Lessons from Energy and FinTech. Dr. Zsófia Bíró (Center for Air and Space Law, University of Mississippi)
2:25 pm	Right of Way Rules: Driving the Future of Orbital Traffic. Ashling Sugarman (Pepperdine Law School)
2:40 pm	Governing Autonomy: Legal and Ethical Frameworks for AI in Space Activities. Margaret O'Brien (Embry Riddle Aeronautical University)
	Block 2: Space Science & Technology



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2:55 pm	A Bright Idea: Why Astronomy Needs Space-Based Solar Power. Benjamin Calloway (Photon Orbital Solutions)
3:10 pm	The Story of HPSC: How Space Communication Powers NASA's Space Exploration Missions. Jessica Mariane Jelke (NASA and The George Washington University)
3:25 pm	Inspection of Non-Cooperative Resident Space Objects in Low Earth Orbit. Rachel Long (Mars Institute and University of California, Davis)
3:40 pm	US-LACSA: Building a Cooperative Security Architecture for Space Resilience in the Western Hemisphere. Mo Tasrif Khan (Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University)
	Block 3: Space Exploration & Future Missions
3:55 pm	WolfSat-2: A Sustainable Wooden CubeSat Design for Very Low Earth Orbit. Speaker TBD (Wolfpack CubeSat Dev team, BLUECUBE Aerospace)
4:10 pm	Preliminary Pressurized Rover Traverse Paths from Clavius Crater to the NASA LCROSS Impact Site in Cabeus Crater Near the Lunar South Pole. Apoorva Somani (United States Air Force Academy)
4:25 pm	Exploring Mars: From Rotorcraft Mission Payloads to Human Exploration Operations. Reef Collins (Mars Institute and University of Central Florida)
4:40 pm	Pathways on Mars: Designing Pressurized Rover Traverse Paths Around the "Noctis Landing" Candidate Human Landing Site. Scarlett Hartzman (Mars Institute and Carnegie Mellon University)
	Block 4: Space Health, Learning and Impact
4:55 pm	From Chernobyl to the Cosmos: Can Fungi Protect Astronauts? Natalie Byrd (Embry Riddle Aeronautical University)
5:10 pm	Insulin in Orbit: A Mission Worth Testing. Kennady Ruth (Embry Riddle Aeronautical University)
5:25 pm	Astronauts Cognitive Maps: Evolving Identity through the Chronospatial Frontiers. Ginger Chen (Florida Institute of Technology)
5:40 pm	Final Thoughts and Recognition. Burt Dicht (National Space Society) and Robert Katz (World Innovation Network)

NextGen Program
3:30 pm - 5:00 pm

International BC
"Human Exploration of Mars"
FEATURED SPEAKER: Dr. Pascal Lee, Planetary Scientist, SETI Institute; Co-Founder and Chairman, Mars Institute; and Director, Haughton-Mars Project at NASA Ames Research Center and NSS Vice President for Planetary Development
MC: Holly Melear, CEO & Founder of STEAMSPACE Education Outreach® & the Cities in Space

Networking Reception
6:00 pm - 7:00 pm

International A
Join us for an open reception that includes a cash bar and appetizers.

Governors' Dinner
7:00 pm - 9:30 pm

International BC
FIRESIDE CHAT: Gerry Griffin, Apollo Flight Director Mission Control and Rod Pyle, NSS Director of Communications, Author, and Editor-in-Chief, *Ad Astra* Magazine
Governors' Message: Col. Karlton D. Johnson, USAF (Ret.), NSS Chief Executive Officer & Chairman, NSS Board of Governors
Presenting of NSS Chris Pancratz Activist of the Year Award
Presenting of NSS Excellence Awards
Presenting of NSS Distinguished Service Merit Award
MC: Isaac Arthur, Host and Executive Producer, *Science & Futurism with Isaac Arthur* on YouTube and NSS President
Dinner Sponsored by the Heinlein Prize Trust

NSS Meeting
10:00 pm - Till

NSS Networking