As of 5/5/26

Saturday, June 6

Registration
8:00 am - 7:00 pm
Foyer

Morning Plenary
8:30 am - 9:45 am
International BC
Panel: If It Was Easy, Everyone Would Do It
Astronaut Panel: Dr. Steven Hawley, Astronomer & Former NASA Astronaut, Robert "Hoot" Gibson, Former NASA Chief Astronaut and Susan Kilrain, Former NASA Astronaut. Moderator: Dr. Anthony Paustian, NSS Vice President Marketing.
Join us for a candid discussion with some of NASA's finest astronauts about the challenges related to spaceflight and the skills required to overcome them.

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: Dr. Steven Hawley, Astronomer & Former NASA 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

NSS Meeting
10:00 am - 12:00 noon
Stevens (lower level)
NSS Chapters Assembly
Open to all conference attendees. Come and learn more about the NSS and NSS regional

10:00 am - 12:00 noon — **Morning Sessions**

Mars — **Beverly**

10:00 am	Mars Robotic Exploration: Past, Present, and Future. Ken Ruffin (Didymos Consulting LLC)
10:15 am	Thirty Years Since Mars-96: Revisiting a Lost Mission of Extraordinary Collaboration and Ambition. Dante Sanaei (Johns Hopkins Applied Physics Lab)
10:25 am	The Mars 2020 Perseverance Rover Mission: Science Results, Current Status, and Connections to Future Human Exploration of Mars. Dr. Jim Bell (Arizona State University)
10:45 am	NSS Student Space Settlement Contest Presentation
11:00 am	From Mars-Express to Rover Missions. Dr. Bernard Foing (Space Renaissance International)
11:20 am	ISRU Extreme Cold Energy Storage for Mars: Iron Perchlorate-based Redox Flow Batteries with Deep Eutectic Electrolytes. Chris Liu (Charter School of Wilmington)
11:30 am	The Anthropian: A New Environmental and Geologic Era on Mars Characterized by Human Impact. Dr. Pascal Lee (SETI Institute, Mars Institute & NASA ARC)
11:40 am	Six Arctic Winters: What the Pomori Castaways Teach Us About Surviving Mars. Dr. Erik Seedhouse (Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University)

Space Elevators — **Amphitheater** (lower level)

10:00 am	Laser Power Beaming to Climbers on the Space Elevator. Larry Bartoszek (International Space Elevator Consortium)
10:20 am	Solar Power for Space Elevators. Dr. John Knapman (International Space Elevator Consortium)
10:40 am	Microwave Power Beaming for the Space Elevator. Avery Davis (National Space Society, Tucson Chapter)
11:00 am	Discussion. Moderator: Larry Bartoszek (International Space Elevator Consortium)

Space Ambassadors — **Statler** (lower level)

10:00 am	Satellites, Spectrum, Sustainability: The Outer Space Treaty in Today's Strategic Orbital Environment. Claire Nalda (Johns Hopkins University)
10:30 am	Robert Goddard's Rocket Innovations. Loretta Hall (NSS Space Ambassadors)
11:00 am	The Top Ten Challenges to the Economic Development of the Moon. Jim Plaxco (NSS Space Ambassadors)
11:30 am	The Glen Hills Space Journey. Lalitha Murali (NSS Space Ambassadors)

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LaunchPad	**Dallas**
10:00 am	Introduction. Dr. Shawna Pandya (International Institute for Astronautical Sciences)
10:04 am	Moon Runnings: Rehearsing Humanity's Future on the Moon through Simulation and Serious Games. Dr. Claire Nelson (Space Futures Forum)
10:12 am	A Rock and a Hard (and Cold) Place: Risk-Informed Choices in Lunar Sampling and Site Planning. Dr. Caitlin Ahrens (NASA Goddard Space Flight Center and the University of Maryland)
10:20 am	tbd
10:28 am	Questions
10:35 am	Pathogenic Engineering, Salutogenic Architecture: A Critical Framework Approach for Space Habitats & Interiors. Stephanie Brick (Salutogenic Design & Consulting Group)
10:43 am	Who Governs the First Settlements in Space? Michelle Hanlon (Air and Space Law at Ole Miss)
10:51 am	Orbital Hospital. Phnam Bagley (Organization for Space Medicine, Engineering and Design)
10:59 am	Questions
11:06 am	First Step: Sustainable Orbital Biological Additive Manufacturing. Bryan Kuklinski (Orbital Construction Pioneers Inc.)
11:14 am	tbd
11:22 am	Could We Terraform the Moon? Key Steps to Get There. Joseph Pelton (Alliance for Collaboration in the Exploration of Space)
11:30 am	Questions
11:37 am	Human Science on Mars: Exploration and Discoveries on the Red Frontier. Dr. Jim Bell (Arizona State University)
11:45 am	An Oasis above the Inferno: An Integrated ISRU Proposal to Change the Venus Settlement Equation. Ben Sullivan (Chemical Engineer)
11:53 am	Questions
11:58 am	Closing Remarks. Dr. Shawna Pandya (International Institute for Astronautical Sciences)

Student Activities 11:00 am - 2:00 pm	**Continental B** Ethics Round Table with NSS SpacEdge Education
Student Activities 11:30 am - 3:00 pm	**Fowler** (lower level) Neuron Strike Presents Space Cybersecurity Joint Incident Response Workshop
Lunch 12:00 noon - 1:50 pm	**International BC** KEYNOTE SPEAKER: Michael López-Alegría, Former NASA Astronaut / Chief Astronaut, Axiom Space Presenting of the NSS Arthur C. Clarke Award to David Brin, Astrophysicist and Novelist MC: Gabriel Rothblatt, Executive Director, US Space Walk of Fame Foundation Vice-Chair, Board of Directors, National Space Society
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 *Live in a Healthy Space* Design Competition.

2:00 pm - 6:00 pm	**Afternoon Sessions**
Mars	**Beverly**
2:00 pm	The National Academies of Sciences, Engineering and Medicine Report on "A Science Strategy for the Human Exploration of Mars." Dr. Lindy Elkins-Tanton (University of California, Berkeley)
2:20 pm	Human Space Missions and Space Weather Risks. Dr. Gerald Rabl (Manhattan University)
2:30 pm	Building Mars Habitats with In Situ Materials. Melodie Yashar (AENARA)
2:40 pm	Multi Sensory Virtual Simulations of Mars Exploration. Bryan Versteeg (Spacehabs.com)
2:50 pm	Haughton-Mars Project: Mars Time-Delayed Human Exploration Mission Operations Protocols. Reef Collins (Mars Institute & University of Central Florida)
3:00 pm	Distributed Electrical Propulsion UAV Using Blown-Lift for STOL on Mars. Aryan Senthilkumar (Northview High School)
3:10 pm	Pressurized Rovers for the Moon and Mars: Requirements and Design from Synthesis of Past Studies and Field Exploration Experience. Rachel Long (Mars Institute & University of California, Davis)

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3:20 pm	Pathways on Mars: Preliminary Pressurized Rover Traverses from Noctis Landing to Explore the Stratigraphy of the Noctis Giant Volcano. Scarlett Hartzman (Mars Institute)
3:30 pm	Mars Tethered Balloon Imaging and Laser Range-Finding Navigation and Mapping System for Future Robotic and Human Exploration. Leonardo Gámez Cuéllar (Mars Institute & Tecnológico de Monterrey)
3:40 pm	Red Planet, Green Future: Defining Durability of Coconut Coir for Plant Growth in Simulated Perchlorate Stressed Martian Regolith. Sindhoora Vemula & Ananya Ram (NSS North Texas
3:50 pm	Will China Beat Elon to Mars? Art Harman (The Coalition to Save Manned Space Exploration)
4:00 pm	Don't Forget Mars! Dr. Douglas Gage (XPM Technologies)
4:10 pm	NSS Student Space Settlement Contest Presentation
4:25 pm	Panel: Moon to Mars: Thinking Ahead. Dr. Lindy Elkins-Tanton (UC Berkeley), Dr. Jim Bell (Arizona State University), Dr. Bernard Foing (Space Renaissance International), Dr. Douglas Gage (XPM Technologies), and Keith Cowing (NASAWatch). Moderator: Dr. Pascal Lee (National Space Society).
5:10 pm	Fireside Chat with Dr. Harrison H. Schmitt (Apollo 17): From the Moon to Mars. Moderators: Dr. Pascal Lee (SETI Institute, Mars Institute & NASA ARC) & Rod Pyle (National Space Society)
Space Elevators	**Amphitheater** (lower level)
2:00 pm	Introduction and Welcome. Dr. Dennis Wright (International Space Elevator Consortium)
2:05 pm	Modern-Day Space Elevator Architecture. Dr. Peter Swan (International Space Elevator
2:25 pm	Space Elevator Environmentally Friendly Notion Explored. Dr. Steven Griggs (Space Railway
2:45 pm	Comparative Ownership Models for Modern-Day Space Elevators: International and U.S-led Approaches to Governance. Aolani Gonzalez (Yale University)
3:05 pm	Tether Materials: Solving the Tensile Strength Paradox for Graphene Laminate. Adrian Nixon (International Space Elevator Consortium) and Dr. Dennis Wright (International Space Elevator Consortium)
3:25 pm	NSS Student Space Settlement Contest Presentation
3:40 pm	Accelerating the Future: Competitions Scaling Space Access. Mordy Friedman (World Space Elevator Competitions)
4:00 pm	Space Elevator Dynamics and Simulation. Dr. Dennis Wright (International Space Elevator
4:20 pm	Energy Efficiency: Energy and Power Requirements for a Heavy Lift Space Elevator. Dr. Steven Griggs (Space Railway Corp.)
4:40 pm	Could We Terraform the Moon? Key Steps to Get There. Joseph Pelton (Alliance for Collaboration in the Exploration of Space)
5:00 pm	Panel: Space Elevators for Space Settlement
Space Ambassadors	**Statler** (lower level)
2:00 pm	Space Renaissance for All. Dr. Bernard Foing (Space Renaissance International)
2:30 pm	Island Zero. Jerry Stone (NSS Space Ambassadors)
3:00 pm	The Future of NASA and Commercial Spaceflight. Ken Ruffin (NSS Space Ambassadors)
3:30 pm	Powering the Space Elevator. Larry Bartoszek (NSS Space Ambassadors)
4:00 pm	Enhancing the STEM Pipeline: The Wolfpack CubeSat Development Team. Kevin Simmons (NSS Space Ambassadors)
4:30 pm	Five Key Artificial Intelligence Systems for the Space Farm. Bryce Meyer (NSS Space Ambassadors)
5:30 pm	Presentations to Local High Schools. Stevan Akerley (NSS Space Ambassadors)
Rothblatt Competition	**Dallas**
Spaceports	**Stevens** (lower level)
NextGen Program 3:30 pm - 5:00 pm	**International BC** FEATURED SPEAKER: Melodie Yashar, Space Architect MC: Holly Melear, CEO & Founder of STEAMSPACE Education Outreach® & the Cities in Space Events®

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Saturday, June 6

Networking Reception
6:00 pm - 7:00 pm

International A
Join us for an open reception that includes a cash bar and appetizers.
Reception sponsored by the International Space Elevator Consortium (ISEC)

Dinner
7:00 pm - 9:30 pm

International BC
"Apollo 17's History in the Dust"
KEYNOTE SPEAKER: Harrison H. "Jack" Schmitt, Apollo 17 NASA Astronaut
Presenting of NSS Apollo Legacy Award to Harrison H. "Jack" Schmitt
Presenting of Rothblatt Space Settlement in Our Lifetime Prize
Presenting of NSS Gerard K. O'Neill Space Settlement Contest Grand Prize Award
MC: Col. Karlton D. Johnson, USAF (Ret.), NSS Chief Executive Officer & Chairman, NSS Board of Governors

Party
9:30 pm - 12:30 am

International A
Come dance at the Saturday Night Party. Don't miss this party!