



As of 5/21/26

Thursday, June 4

Registration

8:00 am - 7:00 pm

Foyer

Morning Plenary

8:30 am - 9:45 am

International BC

Welcome and MC: Dr. Pascal Lee, ISDC 2026 Conference Co-Chair; Vice President for Planetary Development, National Space Society
Welcome: Dale Skran, NSS Senior Vice President/Chief Operating Officer, NSS Board of Directors

TITLE: What Astronauts Teach Us: Space Medicine's Lessons for Human Health Everywhere
SPEAKER: Dr. Dana Levin, Director of Space Medicine, VAST

TITLE: Our Future in Space
FIRESIDE CHAT: Dr. Greg Autry, Space Czar, University of Central Florida, Vice President of Space Development, National Space Society and a special guest.

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

TITLE: Advice for On and Off Planet
FEATURED SPEAKER: Dr. Jennifer Rochlis, Spaceflight Consultant, CEO, Advancing Frontiers, Inc.
MC: Holly Melear, CEO/Founder, STEAMSPACE Education Outreach and Cities in Space Events
The space industry is exploding with opportunity. Discover what's happening in aerospace right now, how to navigate your path without having it all figured out, and the skills that will carry you sustainably throughout your career.

Exhibitors

10:00 am - 6:00 pm

Atrium

Please visit the exhibitors and sponsors tables.

10:00 am - 12:00 noon

AI and Space

Interplanetary Infrastructure

10:00 am

10:30 am

11:00 am

11:15 am

11:30 am

Many Roads to Space

10:00 am

10:25 am

10:45 am

11:05 am

11:30 am

Space Policy

10:00 am

10:05 am

Morning Sessions

Dallas

Statler (lower level)

Are Space-Based Data Centers Launched by Mass Drivers on the Moon the Key to Unlocking the Universe? Phil Swan (The Atlantis Project)

High Temperature Superconductor-Based Mass Drivers Will Transform Lunar Launch Costs for Raw Materials. David Dillon (Electromagnetic Launch, Inc.)

Evolving, Maintaining, Protecting and Preserving Space Infrastructure. Madhu Thangavelu (University of Southern California)

An Oasis Above the Inferno: An Integrated ISRU Proposal to Change the Venus Settlement Equation. Ben Sullivan (Chemical Engineer)

First Step: Sustainable Orbital Biological Additive Manufacturing. Bryan Kuklinski (Orbital Construction Pioneers, Inc.)

Stevens (lower level)

Building Space Nations: Capacity-Building Partnerships. Amy McDowell (International Space University)

Building the Space Infrastructure – Developing Cis-Lunar Space. Alastair Browne (Author)

NSS Student Space Settlement Contest Presentation

Radioisotope Power Systems. Jaclyn Wiley (Zeno Power)

Autonomous Plant Habitats for Life Beyond Earth. Barbara Belvisi (Interstellar Lab)

Beverly

Global Governance and the Future of Space Activity

Welcome Remarks Karlton Johnson (National Space Society)

NSS at UN COPUOS: Building Credibility, Contribution, and the Role of Civil Society in Space Governance. Dr. Fredrick Jenet (NSS International Committee)

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10:20 am	The Role of Multilateral Governance in the Next Era of Space Activity. Aarti Holla-Maini (United Nations Office for Outer Space Affairs)
10:45 am	The U.S. Perspective on Space Governance and International Coordination. Valda Vikmanis (Office of Space Affairs, U.S. State Department)
11:00 am	Commercial Leadership and the Future of Space Governance. Gabriel Swiney (Office of Space Commerce)
11:15 am	Panel: Governance, Coordination, and the Future Space Order. Aarti Holla-Maini (United Nations Office for Outer Space Affairs), Valda Vikmanis (Office of Space Affairs, U.S. State Department), and Gabriel Swiney (Office of Space Commerce). Moderator: Dr. Fredrick Jenet (NSS International Committee)
Space Solar Power Symposium	Amphitheater (lower level)
10:00 am	Symposium Goals. John C. Mankins (Mankins Space Technology) and Gary Barnhard (Xtraordinary Innovative Space Partnerships)
10:10 am	Space Solar Power Overview. Ken Ruffin (Didymos Consulting LLC)
10:30 am	Reverse Engineering the Path Forward for Space Solar Power. Gary Barnhard (Xtraordinary Innovative Space Partnerships)
10:50 am	Space Solar Power Economics. Kevin Barry (Xtraordinary Innovative Space Partnerships)
11:10 am	Go-to-Market Strategies for Space Solar Power. Daniel Faber (Bent Pipe)
11:30 am	Group Discussion: Strategic Policy Agenda for Space Power. Facilitators: John C. Mankins (Mankins Space Technology) and Gary Barnhard (Xtraordinary Innovative Space Partnerships)
Student Activities	Continental B
11:00 am - 3:00 pm	STEM activities with NSS SpacEdge Education. Engage in team building, engineering, critical thinking, and prototyping. Three sessions: 11:00/12:30/2:00.
Lunch	International BC
12:00 noon - 1:50 pm	TITLE: <i>The Next Era of Space: International Cooperation and the Expanding Space Economy</i> KEYNOTE SPEAKER: Aarti Holla-Maini, Director, United Nations Office for Outer Space Affairs (UNOOSA) Presenting of the NSS Space Pioneer Award to Aarti Holla-Maini, on behalf of UNOOSA MC: Dr. Fredrick Jenet, Founder and Executive Director, Expanding Frontiers, NSS Vice President of Technology and Entrepreneurship, NSS Board of Directors
Student Activities	Fowler (lower level)
12:30 pm - 5:00 pm	Mini Space Elevator Workshop. Engineering with World Space Elevator Competitions for middle and high school students (12:30) and university students (2:00).
Poster Session	International A
1:30 pm - 3:30 pm (International A closed during lunch: 12:00 noon - 1:30 pm)	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	Afternoon Sessions
AI and Space	Dallas
Space Health	Statler (lower level)
2:00 pm	Spines in Space. Dr. Haig John (Odyssey Charter School)
2:15 pm	A Model of Astronaut Telomere Dynamics: Literature Review and Analysis. Dr. Joannes Paulus Tolentino Hernandez (Helene Fuld College of Nursing)
2:25 pm	3DMM: 3D Cell Culture Lab-on-Chip with Microfluidics under Simulated Microgravity. Michela Cutigni (Sapienza University of Rome/Thales Alenia Space)
2:35 pm	From Bench to Beyond Earth: Augmenflo — A Novel Wearable Device to Prevent Vision Loss in Space. Dr. Shenoy Varadaraya (University of Washington)
2:45 pm	The Resolution of Space Adaptation Syndrome (SAS) and Expected Space Ionizing Radiation Injury by Restoring Natural Recovery Systems. Dr. William Gardiner (Laboratory Consulting Resources, Inc.)
2:55 pm	Advancing Biomedical Research Infrastructure for Human Spaceflight: Challenges and Pathways for Standardized Biospecimen Collection. Jeremy Wain Hirschberg (Weill Cornell Medicine)
3:05 pm	Integrative Human Performance in Space: Exploring Ayurveda-Informed Approaches to Astronaut Readiness. Dr. Meredith Beckford-Smart (Futures Forum)

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3:15 pm	NSS Student Space Settlement Contest Presentation
3:35 pm	Extreme Healthcare in Extreme Environments — From Space to Earth. Dr. Eliah Aranoff-Spencer (University of California, San Diego)
4:10 pm	Extreme Environments as Discovery Tools: What Spaceflight Physiology Reveals About Health, Aging, and Disease. Dr. Dana Levin (Vast)
4:40 pm	When the Hatch Opens — Physiology, Fitness and Survival in Space. Dr. Erik Seedhouse (Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University)
5:10 pm	Ground Based Analogs for Space Flight: Work You Can Do That Benefits People on Earth Today and Space Exploration in the Future. Dr. Marc Shepanek (NASA, retired)
5:40 pm	Open Forum: Questions and Closing Thoughts
Many Roads to Space	Stevens (lower level)
2:00 pm	Laser Interferometer Lunar Antenna: Gravitational-Wave Detection. Teviet Creighton (South Texas Space Science Institute)
2:25 pm	Alternative Propellants for Nuclear Thermal Rockets. Tyee Garcia (South Texas Space Science Institute)
2:50 pm	Creature Comforts in Space. Samuel Coniglio (Space Tourism Society)
3:20 pm	NSS Student Space Settlement Contest Presentation
3:40 pm	Lunar Orbital Infrastructure. Antonio Stark (ispace, inc.)
4:10 pm	Selling Space: How to Make Your Mission Land. Travis Wicks (Pegasus Online)
4:40 pm	NSS Student Space Settlement Contest Presentation
5:00 pm	Scaling Exploration by Utilizing Autonomous Constellations (Autocons). Michael Johnson (Satmortech)
5:30 pm	Hydrogen Production and Liquefaction Using In-Situ Resources. Sahda Haroon (Purdue University)
Space Policy	Beverly
	Rules, Rights, and Rivalries in the Next Era of Space Development
2:00 pm	Welcoming Remarks. Dr. Fredrick Jenet (NSS International Committee)
2:05 pm	Opening Remarks. Grant Henriksen (NSS Policy Committee)
	Part I: Who Governs the Moon? From Artemis to Settlement
2:10 pm	Lawfare on the Moon: Who Writes the Rules? Michelle Hanlon (Air and Space Law at Ole Miss)
2:35 pm	IOAG Report on LunaNet Governance: Coordination and Governance in the Initial Phase. James Schier (NASA, retired)
3:00 pm	Legal Architecture for Sustainable Lunar Settlement. James Anthony Wolff (Greenspoon Marder LLP)
3:25 pm	Beyond Artemis: From Lunar Base to Lunar Economy. Steven Wolfe (Beyond Earth Institute)
3:50 pm	BREAK
	Part II: The Expanding Space Order: Law, Markets, Sustainability, and Security
4:00 pm	Best Practices in Shaping National Space Law: Lessons from the United States for Emerging Space Nations. Dr. Zsófia Biró (Center for Air and Space Law, University of Mississippi)
4:25 pm	Astrosalvage: An Examination of a Nascent Industry. Grant Henriksen (NSS Policy Committee)
4:50 pm	A Marriage of Necessity: Dark and Quiet Skies for the Protection of Astronomy and Commercial Satellite Development. David Schuman (University of Vienna)
5:15 pm	From Earthbound Economies to Spacefaring Strategy: The Legal Rise of the BRICS Group. Kathleen Brett (Secure World Foundation)
5:40 pm	From Peaceful Use to Strategic Competition: Governing Security in Space. Karlton Johnson (National Space Society)
Space Solar Power Symposium	Amphitheater (lower level)
2:00 pm	Virtus Solis and Space Solar Power. John Bucknell (Virtus Solis)
2:20 pm	Progress in Space Solar Power. Paul Jaffe (Overview Energy)
2:40 pm	Terawatt Power for the Moon. Jim Keravala (OffWorld)
3:00 pm	Global and Affordable Power on the Moon. Paul Damphousse (Volta Space Technologies)
3:20 pm	Powering the Lunar Surface: Managing Dust, Extreme Environments, and Power Needs. Anastasia Ford (NASA)
3:40 pm	Realizing the Lunar Power & Light Company. Gary Barnhard (Xtraordinary Innovative Space Partnerships)
4:00 pm	Space Solar Power Legal and Regulatory Matters. Michelle Hanlon (Air and Space Law at Ole Miss)



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4:20 pm
4:40 pm
5:00 pm
5:20 pm

Air Force Operational Energy in Cislunar Space. Nikolai Joseph (AFRL)
Space Habitats and Space Solar Power. Dale Skran (National Space Society)
Space Solar Power and Space Transportation. Edgar Zapata (NASA, retired)
Group Discussion: Space Solar Power: Infrastructure and Customer Requirements. Facilitators: John C. Mankins (Mankins Space Technology) and Gary Barnhard (Xtraordinary Innovative Space Partnerships)

Podcast

2:00 pm - 4:00 pm

Istanbul

TITLE: *Space Business Podcast from ISDC*

Join Thomas Andrew Olson (Center for Space Commerce and Finance) and Michael J. Laine (LiftPort Group) for a live, two-hour special podcast of the popular show *The Unknown Quantity*, as always, a show that lives at the intersection of space and money, entrepreneurship, investment, policy, news, and the occasional TOMfoolery.

NextGen Program

3:30 pm - 5:00 pm

International BC

SPEAKER: Aarti Holla-Maini, Director, United Nations Office for Outer Space Affairs (UNOOSA)

TITLE: *Tackling Snakes in the Cockpit*

FEATURED SPEAKER: Susan Kilrain, former NASA Astronaut

MC: Holly Melear, CEO/Founder, STEAMSPACE Education Outreach and Cities in Space Events
Astronaut Susan Kilrain will give a brief overview of her life and career, discussing the major lessons she learned along the way — most notably when her first flight as a F-14 Tomcat pilot went terribly wrong.

Networking Reception

6:00 pm - 7:00 pm

International A

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

Dinner

7:00 pm - 9:30 pm

International BC

TITLE: *The Search for Intelligent Life Beyond Our Solar System*

KEYNOTE SPEAKER: Dr. James Green, former NASA Chief Scientist

Presenting of NSS Ad Astra Award to John F. Kross, Senior Contributing Editor, *Ad Astra*

Presenting of NSS Chapter Awards

MC: Dr. Sherry Bell, National Space Society

NSS Meeting

10:00 pm - Till

Networking