

SPACE EDUCATION AND OUTREACH SYMPOSIUM (E1)
Lift Off - Secondary Space Education (2)

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EDUCATING THE NEXT GENERATION IN SPACE SCIENCES - ACTIVITIES AT THE
UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO

Abstract

As space scientists and engineers, it is our duty to educate our community and the future generation about space activities and their relevance to human life on earth. This will not only increase support for space activities, it may also lead to bright minds joining the space industry.

Universities run different outreach programs to familiarize students with the different paths they can follow and also increase interest in science and engineering topics. This not only helps universities thrive, it also helps educate the younger population and might also help them find a purpose in life. The University of Toronto runs several such programs, part of which is specifically dedicated to aerospace sciences and engineering.

This paper will outline some of the activities at the University of Toronto which focus on raising awareness of space activities. Special attention is paid to the DEEP Summer Academy, a highly successful program developed specially for high school students. Held in the summer, some of the courses in this program focus directly on space sciences. This paper will discuss how these courses are proposed and organized, how they are delivered and what the outcome has been. It will also briefly describe other similar programs at the University of Toronto which aim to increase awareness of space activities.