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SPACE EDUCATION AND OUTREACH SYMPOSIUM (E1) Calling Planet Earth - Space Outreach to the General Public (6)

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THE NEXT GENERATION'S VISION FOR PUBLIC OUTREACH AND EDUCATION ON THE ISS AND FUTURE SPACE STATIONS

Abstract

More than 50 years ago human presence off the Earth surface became reality. Later, the step to building a new off-world future for humanity was created with the construction of the ISS. Its abbreviation stands for cooperation of many countries in the name of progress. This paper underlines the international nature of the station with the accompanying benefits, present and future.

Human space endeavors have a profound ability to inspire everyone. One of their main objectives is to galvanize dreams, to show the importance of science, and attract people to work in related fields. The ISS plays a key role in examining the public perception of modern human space flight missions and creating a more positive impression of these. Thus, the ISS can be used as an example to identify issues and improve outreach programs for current and future space stations.

The recent completion of the ISS allows using its huge scientific power to the fullest extend. However, these efforts can be combined more effectively with outreach programs. While the importance of public involvement and interest is currently underestimated, the ISS holds great potential to inspire and excite people from all over the world.

Continuing international dialog and aiming to give a more inclusive youth vision on space station education and public outreach programs, the results presented in this paper include proposals from the 2012 International Space University's Space Studies Program working group studies (team BLISS) and 2012 Space Generation Congress topical discussions.

Furthermore, the paper examines education and public outreach opportunities on board the ISS and their application on future space stations, analyzes problems in the promotion of space programs, offers new approaches for space industry popularization, and shows ways of making the public feel more involved in space station missions.