Paper ID: 30638
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SPACE EDUCATION AND OUTREACH SYMPOSIUM (E1)
In Orbit - Postgraduate Space Education (4)

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A NEW MULTI-DISCIPLINARY SPACE STUDIES PROGRAMME FOR AFRICA AT THE UNIVERSITY OF CAPE TOWN

Abstract

A number of African countries are emerging space nations. South Africa is among these and is in the process of developing a national space programme. One of the biggest challenges to the development of space activities in African countries is the lack of a sufficient number of trained space professionals in government and in industry. Each year, a limited number of African students is able to access excellent training opportunities available in the advanced space-faring nations, but more opportunities accessible to African students are needed in order to increase the pool of trained human capital available to support the development of the space arena in Africa. In 2014, the University of Cape Town introduced a new multidisciplinary Master of Space Studies programme as a contribution to develop human capital in space science and technology in South Africa and in other African countries. This presentation will describe the content and structure of the programme, and its partnerships.