

15th IAA SYMPOSIUM ON BUILDING BLOCKS FOR FUTURE SPACE EXPLORATION AND  
DEVELOPMENT (D3)  
Space Technology and System Management Practices and Tools (4)

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FIRST APPLICATION OF DIMENSIONS OF INNOVATION TO NASA CENTER INNOVATION  
FUND PROJECT PORTFOLIO

**Abstract**

Internal research and development efforts are a core way for an institution to explore new solutions, develop expertise, and provide creative stimulation to a technical workforce. NASA's Space Technology Mission Directorate's ("STMD") early stage technology development programs is the Center Innovation Fund ("CIF"), which serves the role of an internal research and development funding mechanism. The CIF program provides each NASA Center resources for small ( $\$100K$  in time and procurement) early stage ( $TRL_1-3$ ) technology. The product of ingenuity and potential impact serve as the measure of innovativeness.