

SPACE EDUCATION AND OUTREACH SYMPOSIUM (E1)
Space Workforce Development - Problems Encountered and Resolutions (7)

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“DEVELOPING THE FUTURE LEADERS OF THE GLOBAL SPACE COMMUNITY AND
RESPONDING TO AEROSPACE WORKFORCE CHALLENGES”

Abstract

The International Space University (ISU) was established 22 years ago, on April 12, 1987. It is the premier educational organization for post-graduate learning and career growth in the field of space exploration and development, a place where leaders of the global space community are developed and renewed.

As stated in its Credo, “ISU is an institution which recognizes the importance of interdisciplinary studies for the successful exploration and development of space. . . . It is a place where students and faculty from all backgrounds are welcomed; where diversity of culture, philosophy, lifestyle, training and opinion are honored and nurtured.”

Consistent with the vision of ISU’s founders, the university is constantly evolving new programs and curricula to meet the needs of the aerospace workforce, and continues to attract students from all over the globe. Its alumni base now represents 100 countries.

This talk will briefly present how ISU’s programs are evolving to meet the current and projected challenges in maintaining and enhancing a vibrant aerospace workforce, and what the university is doing to enable its alumni to serve as “ambassadors” to the next generation to increase the workforce pipeline. Some personal thoughts will also be offered on specific steps the aerospace profession can take, through education and outreach initiatives, to sustain momentum and workforce growth to meet the exciting and challenging goals envisioned for the global space community.