

SPACE EDUCATION AND OUTREACH SYMPOSIUM (E1)  
SPACE WORKFORCE DEVELOPEMENT – CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES (7)

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S. W. O. T (STRENGTH, WEAKNESS, OPPORTUNITY AND THREAT) ANALYSIS FOR  
STUDENTS TO EXPLORE SPACE AT ISRO AND IAC

**Abstract**

ISRO and IAC, these two abbreviations have strongly influenced and motivated me for a career in the field of Space Sciences. It was the former which has strongly inspired me for a career in Space Sciences and it was the latter that has shown me the path for a career in Space Sciences. It was the IAC – 2007, held in Hyderabad, that has given a boost to my career and from then, I have been associated with the ISRO, IAF and IAC. My experience with ISRO has given a chance for me to closely look at the careers in Space Sciences. I was privileged to be at ISRO Satellite Centre as a member of STUDSAT when the ISRO's maiden mission to Moon "Chandrayaan" was being integrated. IAC – 2007 has marked a "U – turn" in my career. It was at IAC – 2007, I could interact with the great stalwarts like Abdul Kalam, Sunita Williams etc., and as a result a new idea was born, STUDSAT, which has revolutionized an Indian student's perspective towards Space Sciences. And it was this STUDSAT, first pico – satellite from India, which has strongly influenced my decision to study aerospace engineering for my Master's Degree. With the experiences gained, Team STUDSAT and me, as a member of STUDSAT have struggled hard and won the "Hans Von Muldau" Team Award at IAC – 2008. STUDSAT is a unique project that involves the collaboration of nearly 10 educational institutions and ISRO. Later, ISRO has sponsored me for participating at IAC – 2009 at Daejeon. It was this trip that has increased my degree of association with IAC and IAF. IAC – 2009 has helped me to know the various educational opportunities for my Masters and interact with the university officials and also helped me in securing an admission for my Master's at the most prestigious universities. In sum, the students programs of ISRO have helped me in many great ways. At the same time, IAC's have given me a platform to not only showcase my abilities on an international arena but also have given me valuable pathways for making a career in Space Sciences and connected me with the helpful resources and mentors. Down the lane I look forward myself as a full time researches of Space Sciences encouraging the students to take part in the future space endeavors' of mankind.