SPACE EDUCATION AND OUTREACH SYMPOSIUM (E1)
TO BOLDLY GO - SPACE STATION EDUCATION AND OUTREACH (5)

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NASA EDUCATION ACTIVITIES ON THE INTERNATIONAL SPACE STATION: A NATIONAL LABORATORY FOR INSPIRING, ENGAGING, EDUCATING AND EMPLOYING THE NEXT GENERATION

Abstract

NASA performs numerous education activities as part of its ISS program. These cover the gamut from formal to informal educational opportunities in grades Kindergarten to grade 12, Higher Education (undergraduate and graduate University) and informal educational venues (museums, science centers, exhibits). Projects within the portfolio consist of experiments performed onboard the ISS using onboard resources which require no upmass, payloads flown to ISS or integrated into ISS cargo vehicles, and ground based activities that follow or complement onboard activities. Examples include ground based control group experiments, flight or experiment following lesson plans, ground based activities involving direct interaction with ISS or ground based activities considering ISS resources in their solution set. These projects range from totally NASA funded to projects which partner with external entities. These external agencies can be: other federal, state or local government agencies, commercial entities, universities, professional organizations or non-profit organizations. This paper will describe the recent ISS education activities and discuss the approach, outcomes and metrics associated with the projects.