

SPACE EDUCATION AND OUTREACH SYMPOSIUM (E1)
On Track - Undergraduate And Postgraduate Space Education (2)

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THE SOUTHERN HEMISPHERE SUMMER SPACE PROGRAM- A NEW SPACE EDUCATION
PROGRAM BY THE INTERNATIONAL SPACE UNIVERSITY AND THE UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH
AUSTRALIA BRINGING INNOVATIVE SPACE EDUCATION TO THE SOUTHERN HEMISPHERE

Abstract

The International Space University (ISU) has joined with the University of South Australia (UniSA) to create a new educational program specifically designed to meet the needs and calendar of the nations of the southern hemisphere. This new program is an intensive five-week residential course for postgraduate and senior undergraduates, as well as professionals already in the space sector. The ISU philosophy of international, interdisciplinary and intercultural education has been focused down to fit an intensive 5 week curriculum, which is delivered in the southern hemisphere summer months of January and February. The first session was held at the UniSA Mawson Lakes campus in Adelaide, Australia from January 3-February 5, 2011, with a total of 43 students from 11 countries attending. The curriculum included 40 hours of lectures on all aspects of space, 60 hours of hands-on workshops, and 60 hours of team project work, with the students jointly authoring a White Paper. There were also additional field visits, evening public panels, cultural events and individual work activities. The topic of the first White Paper team project was "Defining the Role of Space for the Southern Hemisphere Nations: A Plan for the Future". This paper will present the rationale for the new program, the curriculum delivered, and the goals and objectives of this new course. Results and lessons learned from the first session will be discussed, along with the results and conclusions of the first White Paper report. Future directions and plans for the program will be offered, and there will be a conclusion presenting the role of such an educational program in the current context of space education and the changing nature of the role of space in the southern hemisphere.