

SPACE EDUCATION AND OUTREACH SYMPOSIUM (E1)
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YOUTH SPACE (UN)EMPLOYMENT AND PROFESSIONAL STATUS IN THE FINANCIAL CRISIS

Abstract

The European Space Policy Institute (ESPI) invited the Executive Director of the Space Generation Advisory Council (SGAC) to deliver a presentation at the 6th ESPI Autumn Conference "Space at a time of Financial Crisis", highlighting the current situation of space youth in the current economic situation. The main outcome of that intervention was that there is a lack of data about this particular topic in the space sector, in contrast to the substantial data that exists on youth unemployment in general. This paper addresses that outcome: the need to gather data from young professionals in the space community to evaluate their current status, needs, and trends. This paper gives a general overview of the current situation of the space sector affected (or not) by the financial crisis, and focuses on the young professionals and its status within the space sector. A complete survey was distributed worldwide to gather this data, to hopefully increase the awareness of the importance of keeping and taking care of the new generation coming over. In this report, the main findings of the young professionals who participated in the survey are presented, together with some interesting conclusions and recommendations.