

SPACE EDUCATION AND OUTREACH SYMPOSIUM (E1)
On Track - Undergraduate Space Education (3)

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EVALUATING THE IMPACTS OF SPACE CLUB FUTA IN PROMOTING SPACE SCIENCE AND
TECHNOLOGY IN NIGERIA

Abstract

The first Asteroid Search Campaign in West Africa was organized by the Space Club, Federal University of Technology Akure, (FUTA) Ondo State Nigeria in collaboration with the International Astronomical Search Collaboration (IASC); a campaign that brought together participants from three Universities in Nigeria in a mission to discover unknown asteroid and reduce the risk of an asteroid impact. The Space Club is under the University Centre for Space Research and Application (CESRA), registered under the African Regional Centre for Space Science and Technology Education in English (ARCSSTEE). The club is the largest Space Club in Nigeria and is made up of both undergraduate and postgraduate students (Mostly undergraduate) of the University with a common interest in Space Science and Technology. The purpose is to raise the next generation of Space Leaders. The club has several project groups including Climate change, Satellite Meteorology, Astronomy, Cosmology, Space Engineering, Global Navigation Satellite System, Robotics etc. The Space Club FUTA, which was established in 2014 and inaugurated by ARCSSTEE in 2015 has grown tremendously into becoming the pride of the University and a key figure in the Nigeria's Space Sector. Over the years, the Club has collaborated with Space Organizations such as Space Generation Advisory Council (SGAC), Universe Awareness (UNAWA), University Space Engineering Consortium (UNISEC), Global Space Balloon Challenge (GSBC), and recently, the Global Youth Mapper in promoting Space Science and Technology in Nigeria. In September, 2016; The University Space Club was accepted into the Global Youth Mapper as a Club. This is the first time a University in Nigeria will be joining the highly-rated program. Under this program, the Club has been Capitalizing on web-based open geospatial technologies - our mission is to cultivate a generation of young leaders to create resilient communities and to define their world by mapping it. This paper focuses on evaluating the influence of the University Space Club in promoting Space Science and Technology in Nigeria and explaining the mission of the club to all Space Enthusiast in a bid to seek for partnership and collaboration.