

IAF SPACE EXPLORATION SYMPOSIUM (A3)
Moon Exploration – Part 1 (2A)

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A LUNAR REFORMATION: CURRENT STATUS AND POTENTIAL FUTURE OF A NEW
APPROACH TO LUNAR RETURN

Abstract

This paper will lay out the argument that we are experiencing a cultural ‘Lunar Reformation’ within the international space community that is reorienting our collective efforts related to the Moon away from the all-encompassing strategies of previous generations and towards achievable objectives that stand a good chance of making meaningful progress amidst the rest of the exploration and development objectives that international space agencies are set to remain committed to. We will first lay out a brief description of the dominant lunar strategies that have come before. We will then examine the political and economic signals related to international space programs and private-sector efforts that are suggestive of a shift in emphasis from previous efforts. We will end the paper by laying out some of the policy options that a cultural ‘Lunar Reformation’ might productively embrace and build upon.