

IAF SPACE EDUCATION AND OUTREACH SYMPOSIUM (E1)  
In Orbit - Postgraduate Space Education (4)

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IS THE EDUCATION GAINED DURING ISU SSP ESSENTIAL FOR STARTING A CAREER IN THE  
SPACE SECTOR?

**Abstract**

The International Space University (ISU) is often considered to be an important place to gain knowledge related to the modern space sector. This work will present the impact of one of the courses offered by ISU and its impact on subsequent career.

One of ISU courses is the Space Studies Program (SSP). It is an intensive course, organised once in a year. The ISU SSP lasts between the end of June and end of August. Each year, approximately 100-140 students participate to ISU SSP.

In addition, ISU conducts the Southern Hemisphere Space Studies Program, which lasts for one month. For clarity, the authors of this work did not include graduates from this course into analysis.

This work provides a comprehensive analysis of career paths prior and after ISU SSP. The authors of this presentation reached ISU SSP graduates from every year since 2010. The discussions focused on the career development prior and after the SSP course. A large pool of examined graduates (> 50) allowed to draw important conclusions.

First of all, the impact of ISU SSP studies can be considered to be significant. The authors found that depending on the country of professional activity and specialisation, the impact of ISU SSP varies on the career, although it is always very positive. Secondly, ISU SSP gathers people from all around the World, which allows for understanding of different needs set towards the space sector. In summary, the ISU SSP has a great potential to shape the future space sector, especially in regions, where the space sector is still beginning.