

IAF SPACE EDUCATION AND OUTREACH SYMPOSIUM (E1)  
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GLOBAL WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT IN SPACE INDUSTRY: PERSPECTIVE FROM A  
TWENTY-FIVE YEARS INTERDISCIPLINARY GRADUATE PROGRAM.

**Abstract**

In the last decade, space industry has experienced pragmatic evolutions that have resulted in a shift in the industry ecosystem and players, reduction in mission complexity and cost, increasing number of small and agile spacecraft launched and more emphasis on constellations instead of single and more complex spacecraft. All of these changes and continuous need to integrate space derived products with complementary technologies continue to impose a greater demand on essential skillsets required to drive this fast-evolving industry. One of such institutions contributing to global workforce development is the International Space University (ISU), founded more than 30 years ago with the vision of peaceful, prosperous and boundless future through the study, exploration and development of space for the benefit of all humanity. Over the years, the university has positioned itself as one of the leaders in training global workforce and future leaders in all aspects of space education. The ISU educational model provides interdisciplinary educational programs to students and space professionals in an international and intercultural environment. ISU also serves as a neutral international forum for the exchange of knowledge and ideas on challenging issues related to space and space applications. ISU global community comprises of network of over 1500 leaders in space community from 130 countries. This paper presents a unique perspective on current and future workforce needs for space industry using the success story of the twenty-five years International Space University Masters of Space studies program.