International Cooperation for Space Exploration (1) International Cooperation for Space Exploration (1) (1)

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BUILDING A FOUNDATION FOR FUTURE INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION THROUGH IMPLEMENTATION OF INTERNATIONAL COMPONENT INTO TRADITIONAL AEROSPACE CURRICULUM.

Abstract

Educational world market of 21st century demands and depends on dynamic international interconnections. To keep up with such trends, universities have to be more integrated into an international professional environment. Universities in many countries already increase quantity of joint international educational programs and student projects in order to advance the quality of education and to increase professional marketability of their graduates for the industry. However, including an international component in the curriculum creates certain challenges, especially for STEM-designated departments and universities. This paper discusses strategies for integrating a non-traditional international program component into a traditional aerospace educational curricula. After analyzing international experience of organizing and implementing of international projects and research academic programs, we propose approaches for creating a multidisciplinary, project-oriented program of complimentary education and its implementation in educational processes at STEM universities and departments. The paper presents selected examples of implementation of pilot short-term multidisciplinary student projects in aerospace field with participation of students from many countries including Russia, USA, UK, France, Switzerland, South Korea, China, Italy, and Mexico. The goal of this discussion paper is to discourse relationships and principles of implementing international student projects as a basis for creating a multi and trans-disciplinary educational program for technical universities around the world.