

IAF SPACE EDUCATION AND OUTREACH SYMPOSIUM (E1)
Enabling the Future - Developing the Space Workforce (5)

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LESSONS LEARNED FROM FIRST TERM OF THE POLISH SPACE AGENCY STUDENTS'
COUNCIL

Abstract

Students and young professionals are key stakeholders of the space sector in a country where it is just developing. Engaging them in the decision making process at the early stage of their careers fosters creative solutions in the industry as well as boosts their individual careers. The Polish Space Agency has established a Students' Council - an advisory body to the President consisting of students with considerable space project experience. The idea behind the project was to give the voice to the younger generation on the future of the sector they will soon be a part of. This paper describes the first year-long term, including application and selection process, initial forming, internal regulations and their achievements. The general outcome is positive, however some suggestions for improvement are presented. Recommendations for organizations interested in engaging students in their activities are provided that may help establish similar bodies in other agencies and institutions. The paper has been prepared by members of the first term of Polish Space Agency Students' Council as well as specialists in the Education Office of Polish Space Agency.