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FOREWORD

Dear Supporters and Colleagues,

This year again World Space Week demonstrated its vitality all over the world. Our community of volunteers achieved a new record, with over 2,700 World Space Week events in 86 nations, reaching hundreds of thousands of attendees worldwide. The creativity and scale of participation were an incredible feat. Each year we see new and more imaginative ways to celebrate and build on the excitement from the past year’s events. Meanwhile, we see other events that a well-established and effective means to stimulate interest in space sciences.

Around the globe individuals and organizations put on events that were both entertaining and educational. Through World Space Week many educators used STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) to ignite the imagination of students, building the foundations of our future for the next generation of space professionals. Other events addressed directly the citizens, increasing their awareness and knowledge about space activities and benefits. This is an incredible investment in our future as an ecosystem, as a society and as a world.

With so many nations, traditions and cultures partaking, the variety of events was as diverse as the populations participating. The photos available in this annual report and online demonstrate how space also celebrates our diversity and ability to work together. The 2016 theme “Remote Sensing - Enabling Our Future” also shows how many cultures and nations can collaborate internationally on space projects successfully to protect our planet Earth. This spirit of international cooperation is a key characteristic of World Space Week, sharing its celebration all over the world.

World Space Week continues to grow at a robust pace, building on the 2016 momentum towards an already exciting 2017.

We look forward to your continued celebration of World Space Week 2017!

Max Grimard, Chairman

World Space Week Association
LOOKING FORWARD TO WORLD SPACE WEEK 2017

Last year was a phenomenal year. We are always surprised with how quickly World Space Week comes around, and most people do not realize all the work that goes into preparing for that one week each year. But looking forward to World Space Week 2017, it is important to remind ourselves what World Space Week is all about.

People are at the heart of World Space Week. All across the world from Nairobi to Tokyo, people who engage with World Space Week as volunteers, event participants, sponsors and partners have three things in common:

- They want to be part of something unique and big;
- They want to be recognized; and
- They want to be connected.

The World Space Week Association (WSWA) makes this happen by creating a platform for people to come together through developing a WSW theme that unites event participants, creating a calendar of events and using social and traditional media to promote and highlight events, and distributing available resources to support event holders, among other things.

Our vision for 2017 is to focus on development of people, as a way to increase the number of events entered in the World Space Week calendar. World Space Week volunteers and National Coordinators are central to the ongoing success of this venture, and look to the WSWA to help them grow and connect to the global space community. We take this opportunity to congratulate Victoria Southgate, WSW National Coordinator of the United Kingdom (UK). In 2016, she was awarded Sir Patrick Moore Medal from the British Interplanetary Society for her WSW UK activities and keeping the UK in the top 10 WSW countries. We have increased our team to support National Coordinators, which hopefully will lead to better outcomes and more recognition in their countries for their efforts.

With an existing well run distribution channel, we will look to the global community to provide us with resources that we can share with event organizers across the world. We will look to develop project proposals with the potential to increase engagement and provide the opportunity for people all across the world to actually be involved in space related projects. This is something that the community have been calling for, and World Space Week has been successful with in the past, including Zero-G contests, and development of teachers guides. As such, we will be looking to engage further with our extensive network of supportive current and past donors, such as Inmarsat, Fedex and Lockheed Martin, who have benefited from participation with WSW, as well as reaching out to potential new donors to take this to the next level.

As we prepare for UNISPACE+50 next year, which marks 50 years of the first United Nations Conference on the Exploration and Peaceful Uses of Outer Space and the Outer Space Treaty, 2017 will be our best year yet and we hope you will join us for at least one WSW event, and in this journey to explore new worlds in space!

Dr Timiebi Aganaba-Jeanty
Executive Director, WSWA
WORLD SPACE WEEK INTRODUCTION

"The General Assembly declares 4 to 10 October World Space Week (WSW) to celebrate each year at the international level the contributions of space science and technology to the betterment of the human condition"

UN General Assembly Resolution, 6 December 1999

World Space Week has grown into the largest public space event on Earth. Each year humankind celebrates the benefits of space and the excitement about space exploration. Participation has seen giant leaps, more than doubling over the last three years.

Why World Space Week?
Synchronizing many events within one week, instead of throughout the year, provides the space community with needed leverage to raise public awareness, grow media attention and inspire youth.

World Space Week Reach
During WSW2016, over 2,700 events organized by over of 1330 organizations.

2016 Theme and Poster

The WSW2016 theme was inward-looking, and celebrated Earth Observation from Space for the betterment of the human race. It highlighted a host of classic Earth Observation missions such as the U.S. Landsat mission, the work of intergovernmental groups such as GEOSS Group on Earth Observations and emphasized applications such as environment and agriculture monitoring, land use mapping and new uses such as location based services. The WSW poster was designed by Filip Gloginški, a 17-year old student of the School of the Arts and Applied design in Osijek, Croatia. He worked under the supervision of his mentor, prof. Josip Kaniža. The poster captures the role that remote sensing plays in illuminating our understanding of the planet and in helping us live in sustainable manner. Thanks to the Poster sponsors, FedEx Space Solutions and Inmarsat, the official poster was printed and made available to event organizers through national coordinator in each country.

World Space Week Association
The World Space Week Association (WSWA) is an international non-government organization (NGO) and is a registered 501(c)(3) (not for profit) organization in the United States. It is led by an esteemed Board of Directors comprised of global space leaders and other dignitaries, an executive team that manages operations, and volunteers that support them. The mission of WSWA is to strengthen the link between space and society through public education, participation, and dialogue on the future of space activities, using the United Nations-declared World Space Week (WSW), celebrated October 4-10 annually as a focus.

As an association of volunteers, and through a global national coordinators network, WSWA works to encourage global participants to hold events during WSW.

The Association works closely with educators, space industry, space agencies and other organizations to advocate Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) education to build the workforce of the future by inspiring students through WSW. On a wider scale, WSWA works to improve accessibility of space to people all around the world to creating a platform to express a passion for space, in any way they see fit and possible. WSWA has permanent observer status in the UN Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space (COPUOS), is a member of the International Astronautical Federation, and has numerous global partners.
2016 GLOBAL HIGHLIGHTS

• The Cunard Cruise company announced that they will offer an extraordinary celestial Transatlantic Crossing to coincide with International World Space Week in October 2017. As part of the cruise, participants will spend 2 nights before or after the voyage exploring the history of space exploration in New York or London.

• Airbus Space and Defense hosted an astonishing 227 events in France, Germany, Spain and the UK. This commitment to World Space Week is a driver for all the European WSW activities. WSWA chairman, Max Grimard was the driving force for institutionalizing WSW within the organization and they have reaped significant CSR benefits from engagement with youth during WSW.

• The IMAX theatre showed space-themed blockbusters and documentaries between October 14 – 20 at several AMC IMAX locations in US. Time.com, a leading global online publication, featured the role and importance of the Remote Sensing satellite, Landsat.

• The highlight event in Croatia was the award ceremony of the Odysseus II Contest, supported by the European Space Agency and European Commission, and held in Ličko Lešće, Croatia. Eight year old Ivan Rubčić, winner in the Junior Skywalkers category, received his prize during the ceremony – an iPad Air with space and astronomy applications and other relevant resources – and his Certificate of European Youth Space Ambassador.

• A special panel was convened of space experts in Lagos, Nigeria, where they discussed Innovation in Nigeria and the potential of bottom up initiatives, the role of software as a driver for innovation and how to implement the African Space Policy goal of gender inclusivity and youth engagement! With an audience of bright gamers, developers, machine learning experts and entrepreneurs, the questions were interesting and led to real discussion.

• The U.S Mint provided insights to its long connection to Space Program in commemoration of World Space Week.

• The CIT Blackrock Castle Observatory in Ireland was awarded a Science Foundation Ireland Discover grant, in association with ESERO Ireland, to develop greater awareness of the theme of SPACE amongst schools, teachers and the general public.

• Pakistan held 350 events throughout the week that were an inspiration for both teachers and students across the country. The highlight was WSW celebrations at the Institute of Space Technology (IST), Islamabad, where the highest number of events/activities (total: 156) were organized and a large number of schools, universities, students, teachers and general public participated. The Inauguration event was held in Karachi, and opened by the Chairman of SUPARCO, the Pakistani Space Agency. A display of posters made by students aged 8–11 years from all over the country adorned the lobby of the auditorium, showcasing the work of young students.

• In the United Kingdom there were 163 reported events in 64 towns and cities, which were organized by over 100 separate companies, societies, schools and individuals. The official 2016 Media Launch event was held at Alton Towers Theme Park on 3rd October and was a mixture of education and public engagement. The Day was hosted by TV presenter Dallas Campbell and Apollo 15 Astronaut, Alfred Worden.

World Space Week Association congratulates all participants, volunteers, coordinators, sponsors, and partners for this record-breaking year!
THE RISE OF WORLD SPACE WEEK: SPECIAL REPORT FROM MEXICO

Established in 2010, an immediate priority for the Mexican Space Agency (AEM) was to develop an outreach plan, to spread the benefits of space to Mexicans, in a budget constrained environment. Acknowledging this as a challenge, the AEM sought internationally accepted activities, with little barriers to entry, which also were impactful. They discovered the World Space Week and not only embraced the concept and ideals, but have made it their own in Mexico. In 2013 they devised a pilot program to try out this celebration. They did a pilot test in 10 venues in 9 cities, in 9 states. The idea of celebrating Space was well received, and the turn out was very good with more than 7000 participants engaged. In time for the 2014 WSW celebrations, they dedicated more time to better promote the WSW. The challenge was to have at least one entity to do some kind of activity for the celebration during the week in 15 different states (out of the 32 total Mexican United States). The outcome was awesome. They reached 22 states, 83 venues, more than 800 different activities in those places and more than 75,000 participants altogether. In 2016, at least 133 reported events were held in Mexico, coordinated by the Space Agency. Today, the President of the Mexican Space Agency, Francisco Javier Mendieta, sits on the Board of Directors of the World Space Week Association. The case of Mexico serves as a good model for other countries looking to institutionalize WSW in their country. The initiatives were spearheaded by Mr. Mario M. Arreola-Santander, Director of Outreach. Thanks for all your efforts Mario!

Do you want to be featured here? If so please send us a brief report to taganaba@worldspaceweek.org of the growth of WSW in your organization or country. Perhaps you can inspire others to learn from you, or get ideas to grow your WSW program.
In the early days of World Space Week, events grew slowly to just under 1,000 events in 2012. There has been substantial growth since then, especially in the last four years by nearly 200%. In 2013, WSW saw a big jump in the number of events, as a result of increased promotion and engagement with social media. Participation has grown rapidly each year since, with 2016 having the highest number of reported events to date, over 2,700. It is clear that World Space Week has potential for continued growth in participation and impact.
TEN COUNTRIES WITH MOST REPORTED EVENTS IN 2015 AND 2016

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<th>Number of Events 2015</th>
<th>Country 2016</th>
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</table>

Over 86 nations participated in World Space Week in 2016, an increase from 73 nations in 2015, signifying World Space Week’s increasing global reach. The top ten countries with the most reported events in 2016, shows some interesting trends. Not only did Saudi Arabia leap 5 places to the top of the list since 2015, but Brazil and Romania also showed marked improvements. Mexico emerged as a new entrant to the list (see special report above), while Germany unfortunately fell out of the list, signifying a need for better engagement with some of the largest space nations. Pakistan, India and the UK remained in a good position, based on all the efforts that they put in. World Space Week Association Operations Manager, Goran Nikolasevic, was invited to Pakistan to meet the Pakistani World Space Week team and give a speech on “The importance of celebration of World Space Week in national education system” and saw firsthand the scale of investment that SUPARCO, the national space agency has put into making World Space Week the number one science outreach event in the country. Interestingly, in World Space Week 2016 celebration ministries of education participated in some of the countries, and this is encouraged because of the clear link between the space and its value to inspire children. There are no African countries or Asian countries outside of South Asia at the Top ten 2016 list, so further opportunities for growth lie in this region.
WORLD SPACE WEEK 2017

Theme “Exploring New Worlds in Space”

The 2017 World Space Week theme is an outward facing theme that serves to inspire the World. It puts as a focal point astrobiology missions like New Horizons (NASA’s first mission to Pluto and the Kuiper Belt); feats of engineering such as Lockheed Martin’s Orion Multi-Purpose Crew Vehicle (NASA’s first spacecraft designed to facilitate long-duration, human-rated deep space exploration of new worlds) and efforts of NewSpace actors such as Space X (revolutionary space technology projects with the ultimate goal of enabling people to inhabit other planets like Mars) and other entities with a vision for exploration and utilization of extraterrestrial resources, such as metals from asteroids, water from the Moon, and unlimited solar energy in Earth orbit.

Applying what we know, as well as what we can imagine, to the goal of Exploring New Worlds in Space, this theme will give everyone the opportunity to present what “exploration” means to them, and how that will help us further our goals here on Earth! From the first race to the South Pole, and first solo flight across the Atlantic, to the opening of a sea route from Europe to the East, exploration and adventures have always defined our very existence as inhabitants of planet Earth. World Space Week celebrations in 2017 will open-up avenues to improve the vast human knowledge and awareness of the clear benefits of space technology and its applications. This will also illustrate that our exploration potential has no end, and that the sky is not the limit for the many wonders of human discovery.

As the space community look forward to UNISPACE+50, to take stock on the past 50 years of the space exploration, an official World Space Week event in 2017 can contribute to the work and preparation of the UN as they will report on where we will go in the next 50 years. Please join us to craft a vision for our collective future.
ORGANIZE AN EVENT

You Can Be Part of World Space Week 2017 by Organizing an Event

There are no limits to what can be done to celebrate space during WSW. Audiences can be the public, students, employees, or other targeted communities. Participating organizations get leverage by being part of the largest space event in the world. On the World Space Week website there are many examples of what can be done and what has been done in the past. Examples include:

- Hundreds of Airbus Defence & Space employees speaking at schools across Europe during World Space Week;
- SUPARCO and IST organizing 350 events across Pakistan;
- IMAX theatre showing a week of space themed movies in the United States;
- Space Foundation hosting WSW events in Colorado, US, for teachers and students;
- Or just show up to one of our many events in the WSW calendar.

There are two the main criteria to have a World Space Week event:

1. The event must be space related.
2. It must begin or end during World Space Week October 4-10.

Enter the Event into the WSW Calendar

Enter the event into the global WSW event calendar on [www.worldspaceweek.org](http://www.worldspaceweek.org) before the event so that it can be counted. There are now country pages, so it’s even easier to see the events happening in each country. Afterward, update the entry with results so the impact of your event can be shared. This is really an important step to make your event count, and to inspire other people!
WSW2016: MOST LIKED PICTURES ON SOCIAL MEDIA
LEADERSHIP

UN Office of Outer Space Affairs
P.O. Box 500
Vienna A – 1400
Austria
Director: Mrs. Simonetta di Pippo

World Space Week Association
957 NASA Parkway, Suite 350
Houston, TX 77058
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Khurram, Qaiser Anees
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Laffaiteur, Michel
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THE PLANETARY SOCIETY

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ASTEROID DAY 30 JUNE
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