



UNISPACE III - Space Generation Forum

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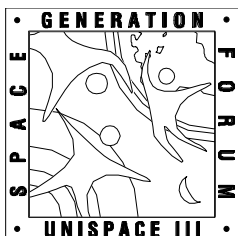
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PRESS RELEASE - UNISPACE III Space Generation Forum

The Space Generation Forum, a conference for university students and young space professionals, will be held as part of the Third United Nations Conference on the Exploration and Peaceful Uses of Outer Space (UNISPACE III) which will be convened under the theme "Space Benefits for Humanity in the 21st Century" from 19-30 July 1999 in Vienna, Austria.

The United Nations Office for Outer Space Affairs, as the executive secretariat for UNISPACE III, has requested the alumni of the International Space University, which has observer status within the United Nations Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space, to organize this Forum. The organizing committee is supported by an international Advisory Board of renowned space experts, space scientists, space policy and decision-makers and representatives of the world's major space agencies.

Delegates to the Space Generation Forum will represent the voice of the world's youth at UNISPACE III. The discussions at UNISPACE III will redefine the international space agenda and will lay new ground for international co-operation in space-related activities. The Space Generation Forum will present young professionals with an unprecedented opportunity to bring their visions and perspectives on what should be the focus of space activities in the next century, to the current leaders and decision-makers in the space arena, as well as contribute to shaping humankind's future in outer space.

The participants of the Space Generation Forum will interact with space scientists, leading thinkers and decision makers representing all the United Nations' member states. Space agencies, the specialized organizations of the United Nations, scientific organizations and space industry will also participate in UNISPACE III. Participants will have the opportunity to observe the plenary meetings of the Conference and will participate in all other UNISPACE III related events. More than 30 technical workshops and seminars on space-related matters and one of the largest space exhibitions ever organized in Europe will be held in parallel to the Conference.

The recommendations of the Space Generation Forum will complement the governmental discussions in the UNISPACE III Committees by generating fresh ideas, alternative scenarios and new insights from the viewpoint of highly qualified young space professionals. The outcome of the Space Generation Forum will be brought to the attention of the UNISPACE III Plenary and will be reflected in the official report endorsed by the Conference which will adopt the Vienna Declaration on Space and Human Development, an international policy framework and blueprint to guide governments and industries in the first half of the 21st century.

Background information and application forms for the UNISPACE III Space Generation Forum can be obtained from the United Nations web site located at <http://www.un.or.at/OOSA/SGF>. The deadline for applications is 15 April, 1999.

Organizations interested in participating in or contributing to the Space Generation Forum are kindly invited to contact the United Nations Office for Outer Space Affairs for further details:

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