



Southern Hemisphere Space Studies Program

MEDIA BRIEF – International Model Rocket Competition Near Adelaide

Today, Saturday 3 February, 50 participants in the Southern Hemisphere Space Studies Program will be launching model rockets north of Adelaide.

The participants from 15 nations have been working in teams of four to design and build their own model rockets. The participants were given a challenging set of performance requirements for their model rocket designs, including a maximum altitude (900 metres), a fragile payload (raw eggs) and deployment of flags.

The Adelaide Football Club have commissioned a special model rocket in Crows colours and deploying a Crows flag to celebrate the launch of the AFLW season today.

Today is launch day!

The Southern Hemisphere Space Studies Program (SH-SSP) was launched in January 2011 by the University of South Australia in partnership with the International Space University (ISU). This is the first time ISU's model rocket program has been conducted in Australia following similar launches overseas, including at Kennedy Space Centre on the same launch pad where Apollo 11 blasted off.

This event is co-hosted by the International Space University, the University of South Australia and the Adelaide Advanced Rocketry Club.

NASA manager and ISU faculty John Connolly says "The ISU model rocketry competition challenges participants to work in international teams to solve a complex engineering problem and compete against each other to best satisfy a set of requirements. And rockets are awesome!"

Scott Pollock, President of the Adelaide Advanced Rocketry Club says "With these sorts of programs, South Australia will ensure it continues to be part of the current space race. These promotions will ensure the State keeps up its history of rocket flying and guarantees the opportunity for aeronautical and space engineers of the future."

We would love to share some great photos and video footage and provide telephone interviews.

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Social Media Handles

#ISUnet #SHSSP18

Background information

This is the seventh program held at the University of South Australia's Mawson Lakes campus. It is matter of considerable prestige that a South Australian university has been chosen as ISU's partner in this international space education venture – UniSA is the only university in the world to have a continuing partnership with ISU to conduct an annual program.

The SH-SSP is an intensive, five-week, live-in experience in the southern hemisphere summer, involving the international, intercultural, and interdisciplinary educational philosophy for which ISU is renowned. The program is open to participants from all nations with graduate qualifications or who have completed the first two years of their undergraduate studies. The program focuses on space applications, space policy and space services, while giving a well-rounded overview of the principles and concepts involved in space science, space systems engineering and technology, space business and management and space legal and regulatory issues.

As in other ISU programs, students benefit from the experience of an international, interactive working environment shared with other professionals, graduate researchers and senior undergraduate students. Program graduates will become part of the international network of ISU alumni, faculty members and visiting lecturers (numbering more than 4,500 to date).

This year there are 50 participants from a wide range of countries - Australia, Bulgaria, Chile, China, India, Ireland, Italy, Germany, Mexico, New Zealand, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Trinidad and Tobago, United Kingdom and the USA. Approximately 60 visiting lecturers and staff will come from Australia, Belgium, France, India, Ireland, Malaysia, New Zealand, Singapore, South Korea, Turkey and the USA.

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