



Southern Hemisphere Space Studies Program

## MEDIA BRIEF – Research Projects on Disaster Management and Space Agencies to be presented to an international audience

The poster features a background image of a rocket launch transitioning into a view of a modern university campus. At the top, it includes the logos for International Space University (ISU) and the University of South Australia (UniSA), along with the text 'Southern Hemisphere Space Studies Program'. The main text reads: 'Team Project Presentations', '15<sup>th</sup> February 2018 9:00am ACDT', 'Livestream@ <https://live.unisa.edu.au/>', and 'Ask questions via social media'. A Twitter icon is followed by the hashtag '#SHSSP18'. At the bottom, it specifies the location as 'Mawson Lakes Campus, University of South Australia, Adelaide, Australia' and describes the program as 'Intensive, Interdisciplinary, Live-in Program for Professionals, Graduates and Senior Undergraduates'.

Tomorrow Thursday 15 February 2018 the 49 participants of the Southern Hemisphere Space Studies Program will present the results of two space research projects completed over the past 5 weeks in Adelaide Australia to an international audience.

### Disaster Management Report

The first project is a study entitled 'Disaster Management – Space Based Solutions for Developing Nations'. In this project the 25 participants from nine countries team explored the integration of satellite positioning, navigation and timing (PNT) technologies and services with disaster management systems. The team also came up with recommendations on how to improve the use of these services in the disaster management cycle.

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“Case studies have revealed that telecommunications infrastructure damage can be a major impediment to emergency services in a natural disaster. The report examines the deployment of mobile communications vehicles such as UAV’s, Mi-wave products and location data from GPS satellites, Internet of Things (IOT) devices and Artificial Intelligence to prioritise alert and distress messaging” according to the Director of the program, Dr Omar Hatamleh.

## **Space Agency Report**

The second project is an international comparison and analysis of space agency aims, structures, missions and funding, for consideration in the planning for new space agencies, such as that announced by the Australian Government in September 2017.

The report includes a survey of 14 existing agencies and describes a diversity of national approaches to space agency priorities, structuring and funding. The program participants will offer their report to the Expert Reference Group currently advising the Commonwealth Government on a charter for the new Australian Space Agency.

## **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 4,000 to date).

This year there are 49 participants from a wide range of countries - Australia, Bulgaria, Chile, China, India, Ireland, Italy, Germany, Mexico, New Zealand, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Trinidad and Tobago and the USA. Approximately 60 visiting lecturers and staff came from Australia, Belgium, France, India, Ireland, Malaysia, New Zealand, Singapore, South Korea, Turkey and the USA.

**Website:**

[www.shssp.education](http://www.shssp.education)

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