



National Space Society

Annual Report 2017

Our Vision

People living and working in thriving communities beyond the Earth, and the use of the vast resources of space for the dramatic betterment of humanity.

Our Mission

To promote social, economic, technological, and political change in order to expand civilization beyond Earth, to settle space and to use the resulting resources to build a hopeful and prosperous future for humanity. Accordingly, we support steps toward this goal, including human spaceflight, commercial space development, space exploration, space applications, space resource utilization, robotic precursors, defense against asteroids, relevant science, and space settlement oriented education.

A Message from our Senior Vice President



The past year has seen a dramatic increase in the pace and scope of space activity. The National Space Society has been a tireless and vocal advocate for this change. With this increasing pace of space accomplishment our vision and mission as an organization comes ever closer to becoming a reality. Now is the time for all of us individually and collectively as a Society to make our voices heard and recommit ourselves to achieving the Vision and Mission that we set for ourselves over four decades ago.

In the coming year, NSS will advocate Congressional authorization and appropriations for a truly effective space program that will ensure American leadership in space for decades to come. The remarkable commercial space progress of recent years will continue to revolutionize what is perceived to be economically possible. Space Based Solar Power initiatives will continue to gain in visibility both nationally and internationally. The reinvention of NASA as a technological forge that provides the advanced technology the will enable our tomorrows may be at hand. A host of other new initiatives, companies and commercial markets will likely emerge from NSS and the space community's efforts.

Our time is now. We must seize the moment. We must rise to the challenge of making a tangible difference, first in the perspective we offer, then in the value that results from space endeavors being factored in as an integral part of providing for the future, and ultimately in the new real wealth that results from our vision of "People living and working in thriving communities beyond the Earth, and the use of the vast resources of space for the dramatic betterment of humanity."

2017 Major Program Highlights and Accomplishments

Conferences

In late May, we held our 36th annual International Space Development Conference (ISDC™) in St. Louis, educating visiting students and public and fostering the collaboration of ideas within the space community. This was one of the best ISDCs ever, in part because we are winning, and the attendees knew it. In January we held the first Space Settlement Summit. This is a high level, invitation only event aimed specifically at promoting Space Settlement among the elite, not only in the space arena but more broadly in Society as a whole. We are pushing our message into Hollywood, the music industry, the media and more generally the creative community. We want the average person to grasp that humanity's future lies in space and that this will be a prosperous hopeful future for all. Adding an annual Space Settlement Summit to our annual ISDC amounts to a doubling down on our Space Settlement goal. In October we held the second Space Settlement Summit. By bringing together nearly all the major supporters of Space Settlement to plan next steps, NSS is very clearly nailing down our position as the leading Space Settlement advocacy organization.

Publications

NSS published four issues of the award-winning publication *Ad Astra* and celebrated its 29th anniversary by doing a major upgrade. NSS also published 24 issues of the twice-monthly electronic newsletter, *Ad Astra Downlink*. Several new articles were presented in the NSS Space Settlement Journal and a new book, *Space 2.0*, was begun in collaboration with space author Rod Pyle.

Policy

NSS conducted its 2017 March Storm on Capitol Hill in Washington, DC, meeting with several congressional offices. In August, NSS members also visited congressional offices in their districts in the August Home District Blitz. NSS also maintained a Political Action Network for stimulating responses to policy issues related to the goals of NSS. NSS also produced white papers on access to space and space traffic management.

Immediately following the election, we sent to the new administration our space policy recommendations. These had been developed at a workshop held at Draper Fischer Jurvetson, one of the major venture capital firms in Silicon Valley, on October 8, 2016. We called for the reestablishment of the Space Council, for a change in focus towards the Moon and an increased emphasis on Commercial Space. All of which have happened. We reinforced these recommendations in January 2017 by briefing the Trump Transition Team

In Congress we have been lobbying for some time to alter the goals of NASA in our direction. This finally paid off in early 2017, when the NASA Authorization Bill became law. It states that a goal of NASA shall be "...to enable...human habitation on another celestial body and a thriving space economy in the 21st century". Not quite our goal of Space Settlement and the use of the vast resources of space for the dramatic betterment of humanity, but a huge step in that direction.

In March we with our partner, the Space Frontier Foundation, organized March Storm. This involved bringing many people to Washington, educating them about our issues, training them concerning how to lobby, and arranging for them to meet with over a hundred members of Congress and/ or their staffs.

In early May our leader Mark Hopkins addressed the United Nations. A major focus of theirs is what they call Sustainable Development Goals. This involves plans to rapidly increase per capita income (particularly of less developed nations), while simultaneously observing severe environmental and resource constraints. The fundamental problem that they are struggling with is that there is no practical way to rapidly increase per capita income given their constraints. It turns out that the United Nations is very fertile ground for our message; space resources can smash the resource constraints of Earth

In August we and the Space Frontier Foundation organized our Congressional Home District Office Blitz. This was much like March Storm except, instead of meeting with members of Congress in Washington DC, we met with them at their offices located in the districts and states they represent.

Contests and Awards

NASA Ames Research Center in conjunction with the National Space Society conducted its annual space settlement contest for 6-12th grade students. NSS also held a space settlement student art contest. NSS also honors individuals and groups who have made significant contributions consistent with the Society's mission of creating a spacefaring civilization. These include the von Braun Award, the Space Pioneer Awards, NSS Awards for Excellence for individual volunteer efforts in service to the Society, the Robert Compton Space Activist of the Year Award, the NSS Chapter of the Year Award, and Chapter Excellence Awards.

Projects

NSS continues development of the Enterprise in Space Program with the goal to send a spacecraft to low earth orbit loaded with over 100 student experiments and then to safely return this craft to Earth. NSS also teamed with Team Alpha CubeSat and Cislunar Explorers as part of the NASA CubeQuest Challenge.

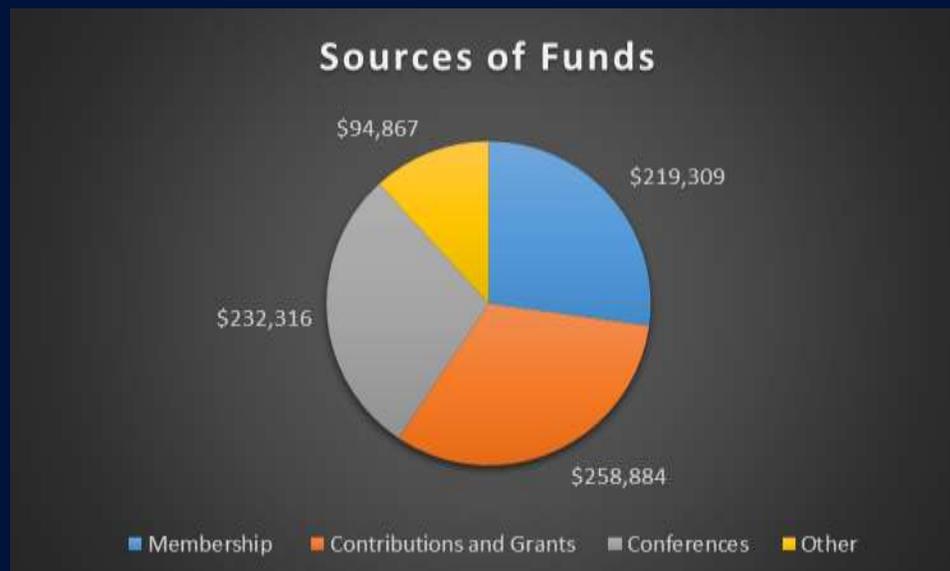
Financial Summary

The 2017 NSS independent auditor report, complete set of financial statements, and our annual 990 filing to the IRS can be obtained online at <http://space.nss.org/national-space-society-public-finance-documents/> or by calling our headquarters office at 202-429-1600. The charts below detail our programmatic efficiency and source of funds followed by a financial summary of our activities for the year ending December 31, 2017, subject to a detailed update upon completion of our 2017 auditor report in mid-2018. In November our leadership position was strongly confirmed. Herman Rubin, a famous Purdue Professor Emeritus, wants to leave a million-dollar bequest to the organization that can best promote space settlement. He had his lawyer do an exhaustive search to find that organization. The search led to the National Space Society. Thank you, Professor Rubin.

Programmatic Efficiency



Sources of Funds



Summary of Financial Activity for the Year Ending December 31, 2017

Revenue	
Membership	\$219,309
Contributions & Grants	\$258,884
Conferences	\$232,316
Other	\$94,867
Total Revenues	\$805,376
Expenses	
Education & Communication	\$564,291
Policy & Research	\$186,809
Fundraising	\$51,517
Management & General	\$80,346
Total Program Expenses	\$882,963
Balance Sheet	
Increase (Decrease) in Net Assets	\$(57,363)
Net Assets at Beginning of Year	\$193,906
Net Assets at End of Year	\$136,543

Please visit <http://space.nss.org/national-space-society-public-finance-documents/>
for complete set of financial statements.

NSS Leadership

Officers	Board of Directors	Board of Governors	Board of Advisors
Hugh Downs Chairman, Board of Governors	Kirby Ikin, <i>Chair</i>	Hugh Downs, <i>Chair</i>	Stephanie Bednarek
Alice Hoffman President	Larry Ahearn	Mark Albrecht	David R. Criswell
Kirby Ikin Chairman, Board of Directors	Dale Amon	Buzz Aldrin	Marianne Dyson
Mark Hopkins Chairman of the Executive Committee	Chantelle Baier	Eric Anderson	Daniel Faber
Dale Skran Executive Vice President	Gary Barnhard	Norman R. Augustine	Don M. Flournoy
Bruce Pittman Senior VP and Senior Operating Officer	Mark Barthelemy	Lance Bass	Graham Gibbs
Dave Stuart Vice President, Chapters	David Brandt-Erichsen	Howard Bloom	Jerry Grey
Hoyt Davidson Vice President, Development	Hoyt Davidson	Ben Bova	Peter Kokh
Burton Dicht Vice President, Membership	Burton Dicht	Bruce Boxleitner	Alan Ladwig
Lynne Zielinski Vice President, Public Affairs	Art Dula	Dan Brandenstein	Florence Nelson
Anita Gale Secretary	Anita Gale	Tom Cruise	Ian O’Neill
Joe Redfield Treasurer	Peter Garretson	George Dietrich	Christine Peterson
John Strickland, Jr. <i>Assistant Treasurer (ex officio)</i>	Al Globus	K. Eric Drexler	Seth Potter
Michael Snyder Assistant Secretary (ex officio)	Alice M. Hoffman	Arthur M. Dula	Stan Rosen
Mac Canter General Counsel (ex officio)	Mark Hopkins	Freeman Dyson	Stanley Schmidt
	Kirby Ikin	Don Fuqua	Rick Tumlinson
	Jim Keravala	Newt Gingrich	Lee Valentine
	Rob Kelso	Jeff Greason	James Van Laak
	K. Dean Larson	Harry Hamlin	Paul Werbos
	Jeffrey Liss	Tom Hanks	
	John Mankins	Barbara Marx Hubbard	
	Karen Mermel	Janet Ivey	
	Amanda Moore	Mark Jannot	
	Christine Nobbe	Karlton Johnson	
	Kyle Perkins	Edwin Jones	
	Bruce Pittman	Lon Levin	
	Joe Redfield	John S. Lewis	
	Ken Ruffin	James Lovell	
	Dale Skran	Kenneth Money	
	John K. Strickland, Jr.	Nichelle Nichols	
	Jay Wittner	Geoff Notkin	
	Lynne Zielinski	Scott Pace	
		Glenn Reynolds	
		Harrison Schmitt	
		Michael Simpson	
		Anthony Tether	
		Maria von Braun	
		Gordon Woodcock	
		Simon “Pete” Worden	

About the National Space Society

The National Space Society (NSS) is an educational, grassroots, non-profit organization dedicated to the creation of a spacefaring civilization. The Vision of NSS is people living and working in thriving communities beyond the Earth, and the use of the vast resources of space for the dramatic betterment of humanity. The Mission of NSS is to promote social, economic, technological, and political change to expand civilization beyond Earth, to settle space and to use the resulting resources to build a hopeful and prosperous future for humanity. Accordingly, we support steps toward this goal, including human spaceflight, commercial space development, space exploration, space applications, space resource utilization, robotic precursors, defense against asteroids, relevant science, and space settlement-oriented education.

Founded as the National Space Institute (1974) and L5 Society (1975), which merged to form NSS in 1987 (see merger proclamation), NSS is widely acknowledged as the preeminent citizen's voice on space. NSS has over 50 chapters in the United States and around the world. The society also publishes *Ad Astra* magazine, an award-winning periodical chronicling the most important developments in space. For U.S. tax purposes, NSS is a tax-exempt, 501(c)(3) educational, non-profit corporation. All donations to NSS are fully tax deductible (as allowed by your local laws). NSS grassroots political activities are governed by the 501(h) election, which permits a limited amount of activity aimed at influencing U.S. legislation.