



Space Generation Advisory Council

in support of the United Nations Programme on Space Applications

Press Release, October 9th, Daejeon – Republic of Korea

First perspectives from the Space Generation Congress 2009!

The first day of the Space Generation Congress organized by the Space Generation Advisory Council brought about interesting insights into the space community from both the advanced student and young professional SGC delegates and experienced established space professionals.

The day started with a welcoming word from the Chairs of SGAC, **Ben Baseley-Walker** and **Agnieszka Lukaszczyk** who welcomed the attendees and expressed their excitement and high expectations about this year's Congress.

Ariane Cornell, Executive Director of SGAC, went on to present a short history of the organization as well as the main activities of SGAC: networking, conferences and projects, stating that SGAC will continue doing them at a level bigger and better with every year. **Alex Karl**, Project Coordinator, opened the working sessions by briefing the teams on the structures, outlines, purposes and schedules of the five SGC 2009 projects. Each session has one moderator and two rapporteurs and will focus on one main question from the five topics of this year: Industry, Agency, Climate, Exploration and Peace.

After the introductory speeches, the groups moved to KAIST (Korea Advanced Institute of Science and Technology) and began working on the assigned project questions, aided by top professionals from the space community.

The SGC **Industry** session gathers students and youth with professionals coming from organizations including Lockheed Martin and NASA. Their task is to analyze the relationship between space industry and global youth and identify how it can be improved.

The SGC **Agency** session was given the challenge to identify how education and outreach tools can be used in order to increase awareness and to find innovative ways to use GNSS applications. In order to achieve that, the group decided to focus upon a specific issue: heavy traffic in highly populated developing countries.

The SGC **Climate** session group is examining how to raise awareness among the general public and decision makers about the relationship between climate change and space technology and how that technology can help in monitoring, mitigation and outreach efforts. The starting point of the project was a focus on the need for more open source data from more locations simultaneously with higher sampling rates.

The SGC **Peace** session is working on identifying which factors and topics need to be included in the discussion about peace in space and sustainable use of space in the future. The main topics that the group is approaching are: space debris, space traffic management and space situational awareness.

The SGC **Exploration** session received one of the hardest tasks – to identify the opinions of youth on human space flight. The group decided not to focus on how to identify means of attracting more funding for space exploration, but rather on how to plant the seeds of future space generations, capable of improving and expanding space flight.

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Between the session working times, all attendees at the Space Generation Congress 2009 had the opportunity to meet **J.R. Edwards** and his team from Lockheed Martin. J.R. Edwards presented a viewpoint on the challenges of space industry, focusing on space workforce, while his colleagues, **David McReavy** and **Kat Coderre** gave a presentation on the Orion project, and explained the mission concept to the Moon, encouraging and inspiring the space generation. Also, the attendees had an impressive traditional Korean lunch, sponsored by KAIST and attended by the Dean of KAIST School of Engineering – **Seung-O Park** who gave a warm welcome to the space generation and presented the opportunities KAIST is offering to space students.

Today, the working groups will continue their projects, as well as attend speeches from representatives of the space community – **Professor Choi Soon Dal**, Chairman of SaTReC, **Dr. Ray Williamson**, Executive Director of the Secure World Foundation and **Jim Zimmerman**, President of International Space Services, Inc. SGC 2009's keynote address will be given by **Ambassador Ciro Arévalo**, Chair of the United Nations Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space.

Access to information on real time can be done by following #SGAC on Twitter.

For more information please visit our website <http://daejeon.spacegeneration.org/>

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The Space Generation Advisory Council in support of the United Nations Program on Space Applications (SGAC) is a non-governmental organization which aims to represent university students and young space professionals to the United Nations, Nation States space agencies and other organizations in the space community. SGAC has permanent observer status in the UN Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space (COPUOS). The SGAC Executive Council is made up of representatives from each of the six UN regions, and has a larger body of representatives from nation states. Our focus is on pragmatic space policy advice to policy makers based on the interests of the global community of students and young professionals, broadly in the age range 18-35, interested in space. For further information, please visit www.spacegeneration.org

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