

## **United Nations Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space**

**59<sup>th</sup> Session of COPUOS STSC  
7 – 18 February 2022**

**Statement by the  
International Space University (ISU)**

**Dear Chair, distinguished Delegates.**

**On behalf of the International Space University, I would like to start by offering our support to this Committee and its work in any way possible. ISU appreciates very much the opportunity to provide a brief report on recent achievements and future plans in support of the aims of the Committee.**

### **About the International Space University**

**ISU develops the future leaders of the world space community by providing interdisciplinary, intercultural and international educational programs in all relevant space domains such as the Master Program, the Space Studies Program, the Southern Hemisphere Program as well as Executive Space Courses. ISU also fosters entrepreneurship and supports start-up's in its dedicated incubator. Over the past 30 years, more than 100 successful space start-ups have been founded or co-founded by ISU alumni in 27 countries, some of which are now world leading "New Space" companies. The ISU faculty consists of 160 members worldwide including the ISU Central Campus faculty, the Associate and Adjunct faculty, and visiting lecturers from space agencies, industry and academia. By joining the ISU network of 5200 alumni from 110 countries, students engage with world space experts shaping the development of the global space economy. And ISU contributes to an efficient exchange of space knowledge between regions worldwide.**

**There is a significant shortage in the STEM workforce; in the near future we need thousands of highly skilled employees in the space sector, especially in industry to design, manufacture and operate innovative space technologies and missions.**

**ISU continues to provide educational programs all over the world. In this very moment we are organizing the Southern Hemisphere Program in cooperation with the University of South Australia in a virtual format. This program aims to act as a catalyst boosting the role of space for countries in the southern hemisphere and those cooperating with them. We also recently organized an Executive Space Course in cooperation with the South African Space Agency SANSA for the African region.**

**Our Space Studies Program is a nine-week professional development program that takes place at a new location each year in the June-August period. This year, the ISU Space Studies Program will be hosted in Portugal by the Portuguese Space Agency and the Instituto Superior Técnico of the University of Lisbon. The ISU Team and Portugal Space welcome students from all countries to come to beautiful Portugal for a fantastic summer Space Studies Program in the city of Oeiras.**

**Team Projects are an essential component of our academic program. Participants gain a valuable hands-on experience of collaboration in international and interdisciplinary teams in order to address a topic of interest to the world space community. For the next meeting of the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee which will hopefully be held in person, we would like to propose a presentation of a Team Project of our Space Studies Program 2022.**

**It is necessary to develop new programs, particularly for currently underrepresented geographic regions and foster collaborations in space education and student training to support underprivileged communities and regions. In the recovery phase of the COVID-19 pandemic, it is also necessary for many educational institutions to offer more online programs. ISU will therefore engage in developing more digital learning content.**

**The Master in Space Studies is ISU's main academic program, which runs at ISU's central campus in Strasbourg, France. The Master class 2022 comprises about 40 students representing more than 20 nationalities.**

**Our yearly survey on employment of our Masters' graduates has shown that more than 80 % of recent alumni reported to have a job or continued studies.**

**ISU has created in 2021 a Space Policy and Entrepreneurship Lab as a dedicated research laboratory to address the issues and trends in the domains of space policy and the space economy, including New Space worldwide.**

**In all its activities, the International Space University strongly supports the aims and objectives of UN COPUOS.**

**If any delegates would like to know more about the International Space University, they are cordially invited to contact us. Many reports are publicly available on the ISU Library website.**

**Thank you for the opportunity to present the main activities and plans of the International Space University to this Committee.**

**Thank you very much for your attention.**

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