



Universities Space Research Association

About USRA

Formed in 1969, under the auspices of the National Academies of Science, Universities Space Research Association is an independent nonprofit organization that offers an avenue for government and industry to engage the expertise of the academic community with USRA's technical leadership, innovative R&D, operational excellence, management of premier facilities, and education programs to advance space and aeronautics-related sciences and exploration.

Approach & Organization

Key to USRA's capabilities is the role of universities. In 2023 USRA scientists were involved in 1,400 research collaborations at 343 organizations, including 655 research engagements with 145 universities including 18 international members. USRA also increased collaborations with Minority Serving Institutions by 29 percent. Today, USRA is an association of 121 Universities.

Our Mission

- **Advance the space- and aeronautics-related sciences and exploration through innovative research, technology, and education program**
- **Promote space and aeronautics policy**
- **Develop and operate premier facilities and programs by involving universities, governments, and the private sector for the benefit of humanity**

Our Values

- **Passion—for science, technology, and education**
- **Partnerships—with universities, governments, and the private sector**
- **Professionalism—through excellence, accountability, and respect for others**

Core Competencies

- Astronomy and Astrophysics
- Heliophysics
- Lunar and Planetary Sciences
- Applied Earth Science
- Low Gravity Sciences
- Space Life Sciences
- Modeling & Simulation
- Space Nuclear Power & Propulsion
- Aeronautics Research
- Advanced Computing and Data Science
- Science Facility Management and Operations
- STEM Education Activities
- Commercial Space and Entrepreneurship
- Quantum Sensing and Computing

