

What Is the National Space Grant Foundation and What Can It Do for Your Program?

For presentation to the
National Council of Space Grant Directors'
Spring 2017 Meeting
Arlington, VA
March 3, 2017

Mitchell K. Hobish, Ph.D.
Executive Director
National Space Grant Foundation

A Glowing (but Factual) Description of the National Space Grant Foundation

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National Space Grant Foundation (NSGF)

Efficient
Low-cost
Space Grants Lists Outreach Website
Payments NASA Stipends Meetings
Support Education Aerospace
Services Grant Foundation
Responsive Registration Hosting
Contracts Investments Research
Donations

Today's Presentation

- * Formation and Mission
- * Structure
- * Services and Capabilities
- * Summary

NSGF Formation

- * Established by Space Grant Consortium (SGC) directors
 - * Grew organically out of SGC activities and perceived support needs
- * Incorporated in 2001 as a 501(c)3 not-for-profit organization in Washington, DC
- * A “distributed” organization

NSGF Mission Statement (updated)

- * To promote and provide students with transformational STEM educational and research opportunities and to support public engagement in areas related to NASA's missions.

NSGF Structure: Board Information

- * **Seven elected board members**

- * Philippe Geubelle (IL), Chair
- * Kevin Crosby (WI), Treasurer
- * Lynn Fenstermaker (NV), Deputy Treasurer
- * Darren Hitt (VT), Secretary
- * Cass Runyon (SC)
- * James Casler (ND)
- * UJ Sofia (DC)

- * ***Ex officio* board members**

- * Steve Ruffin (GA), Chair, Executive Committee, National Council of NASA Space Grant Directors
- * John Kosmatka (CA), Chair, Board of Directors, National Space Grant Alliance
- * Mitch Hobish, Executive Director, NSGF

NSGF Support Capabilities: Summary

- * Operations
- * Mailing Lists
- * Meeting Support
- * Contractual Support
- * Financial Activity

NSGF Support Capabilities: Operations and Mailing List Support

- * Payment processing
- * Administration of the Distinguished Service Award
- * Web-based support
 - * Common URL for each SGC
 - * Hosting National Council web site
 - * Website design and development
- * Mailing lists for SGC directors and coordinators

NSGF Support Capabilities: Meeting Support

- * Meeting registrations
 - * Credit card processing
 - * Expenditure payments
 - * One-time event insurance
- * “Working with the SG Foundation has provided us with conference registration services that were not possible through our state university. Setting up the registration site to accept credit cards was easy from our end, conference expense payments were simple, and everyone was pleasant and professional to work with.”

--Scott Tarry and Michaela Lucas, NE

NSGF Support Capabilities: In-SG Network Contract Examples

* Virginia SGC

- * Aerospace Science and Technology Scholars (VASTS)
- * Building Leaders for Advancing Science and Technology (BLAST)
- * Commonwealth STEM Industry Internship Program (CSIIP)
- * Virginia Space Coast Scholars (VSCS)
- * Virginia Earth System Science Scholars (VESSS)

* Colorado and Virginia SGCs

- * RockOn

* Montana SGC

- * Eclipse Ballooning Project
- * William A. Hiscock Space Grant Award

* Nevada SGC

- * Real-World Design Challenge

- * “Our Space Grant Foundation accounts enabled us to legitimately fund two important pre-college programs that could not be funded by NV Space Grant funding.”

--Lynn Fenstermaker (NV)

NSGF Support Capabilities: Outside-of-SG-Network Contracts

* Current

- * John Mather Nobel Scholars
- * NASA's Kennedy Space Center Higher Education Support Services
- * XHAB Competition
- * Large Synoptic Survey Telescope Corporation - KY

* Historical

- * Satellite Engineering for the Development of Puerto Rico's Aerospace Workforce (PRIDCO)
- * Aerospace Scholars Support Services
- * Summer of Innovation
- * NASA Space Science Student Ambassadors
- * American University K-12 STEM Educator Program
- * IRIS Build
- * Aerospace Education Specialist Program
- * Undergraduate Student Instrumentation Project (USIP)
- * Women in STEM High School (WISH)

NSGF Support Capabilities: Outside-of-SG-Network Contracts Active - I

- * John Mather Nobel Scholars
 - * Provides travel support to current and former NASA GSFC interns
 - * Three-year, \$3K (total) award to student
 - * 15 new awards in 2016
 - * Year-to-year agreement

- * “I’ve been really pleased with how [the Foundation] made it effortless for me, and with the brilliance of the winners. Thanks so much!”

—John Mather, Nobel Prize Laureate

NSGF Support Capabilities: Outside-of-SG-Network Contracts Active - II

- * Kennedy Space Center (KSC)
 - * Higher Education Support Services (HESS) (Gloria Murphy, PoC)
 - * Robotics mining competition
 - * Senior design contracts
 - * First Nations Launch
 - * NASA Network of States
 - * Astrocamp
 - * NASA intern support
 - * Five-year agreement, ends 1/13/2018
 - * NSGF responsibilities
 - * Administer funding
 - * Create subawards

[PoC could not provide a suitable comment for regulatory reasons, sbut—trust me—she’s happy!]

NSGF Support Capabilities: Outside-of-SG-Network Contracts Active - III

- * KSC and other Centers
 - * XHAB (Tracy Gill, PoC)
 - * Competitively awarded contracts for student design, build, and test teams
 - * Supports human presence in space
 - * Five-year agreement – ends 5/7/2018
 - * NSGF responsibilities
 - * Facilitate proposal submission and evaluation
 - * Administer awards
 - * Create subawards

[PoC could not provide a suitable comment for regulatory reasons, but—trust me—he’s happy,too!]

NSGF Support Capabilities: Financial Activities – Deposits

- * Deposit handling
 - * Affiliate dues
 - * Transfer funds from fiscal agent to NSGF
 - * Any funds collected by SGC
 - * Invoicing
 - * Suitable supporting documentation can be issued

NSGF Support Capabilities: Financial Activities - Expenditures

- * Expenditures
 - * Student/faculty stipends
 - * Travel expenses
 - * Staff meals
 - * Promotional items
 - * Office equipment
 - * Staff bonuses

- * “There have been several instances... when I'm not sure what we would have done without the Foundation and their effective services. The Foundation completed these services quickly and with obvious expertise.”

—Angela Des Jardins, MT

NSGF Support Capabilities: Financial Activities - Donations

- * Donation handling
 - * Unrestricted
 - * Donations payable to NSGF or SGC
 - * Restricted
 - * Specific activity
- * Written receipts issued for donations > \$250
 - * “The Foundation allows my consortium to receive private, corporate and estate gifts that support the students of our consortium.”
--Jack Higginbotham and Catherine Lanier (OR)

NSGF Support Capabilities: Financial Activities - Investments

- * Manage Investment Accounts
 - * Participant-directed
 - * Quasi-endowment
 - * Goal: CPI + 4% annually
 - * Financial management by Kerry Kearney, Merrill Lynch

NSGF Support Capabilities: And now, a little love

- * Majid Jaridi (WV)
- * Mary Sandy (VA)

How the NSGF Gets It All Done: Our Tip-top Staff

- * Administrative

- * $\Sigma = 0.59$ FTEs

- * **Shirley Campbell:** Assistant Director, general contract support

- * **Mark Fischer:** Information technology support

- * **Talia Jurgens:** Financial analysis

- * **Mitch Hobish:** Executive Director

- * Programmatic/contractual

- * $\Sigma = 0.53$ FTEs

- * **Shirley Campbell**

- * **Mark Fischer**

- * **Eric Day**

NSGF Support Capabilities: Summary

- * **Mission**

- * To promote and provide students with transformational STEM educational and research opportunities and support public engagement in areas related to NASA's missions.

- * ***We're here to support you***

- * Operations
- * Contracts
- * Expenditures
- * Investment management
- * *Open to discuss new services*

- * **Discriminators**

- * Low overhead
- * Fast response time
- * Long-term history with SGCs

- * ***SGCs + NSGF = Unique national resource***

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THANK YOU!