Dr. Stephen M. Ruffin, stephen.ruffin@ae.gatech.edu
https://www.ae.gatech.edu/people/stephen-m-ruffin

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION

Dr. Stephen M. Ruffin
Director, NASA's Georgia Space Grant Consortium
Professor, School of Aerospace Engineering
Georgia Institute of Technology
Atlanta, GA

National Council of Space Grant Directors Spring 2017 Meeting
March 2-4, 2017
Arlington, VA

Georgia Institute of Technology
School of Aerospace Engineering
Dr. Stephen M. Ruffin, stephen.ruffin@ae.gatech.edu
http://www.ae.gatech.edu/community/staff/bio/ruffin-s

Outline

- Agenda Features
- Welcome
- Introductions

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Agenda Features

- Interactive Sessions
  - Eclipse Accessibility Training (1:45pm Thur.)
  - 1st Annual Julius Dasch Student Poster Session (3:05pm Thur.)
  - Interactive Workshop: Diversity and Inclusion (3pm Fri.)
- National Space Grant Initiatives
  - Eclipse Ballooning Session (1:30pm Thur.)
  - Community College and Technical School Session (10:55am Fri.)
- Distinguished Service Award Banquet
  - Recognition of a Hidden Figure of the Space Program

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Much has Happened in Since we Last Met…

- NASA's Kepler mission verified over 1,000 new planets
- NASA's Juno spacecraft entered Jupiter's orbit initiating study
- Launch of OSIRIS-REx asteroid sample return mission.
- NASA resumed X-plane programs to demo green technologies
- Best of all…
  - **Space Grant Augmentation Awards Returned!!!**
  - Another stellar year of space grant accomplishments in all 52 consortia

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Much has Happened in Since we Last Met…

- Mid-Atlantic Regional Mtg.

- Northeast Regional Mtg.

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Much has Happened in Since we Last Met…

- Southeast Regional Mtg.

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Much has Happened in Since we Last Met…

- Western Regional Mtg

- Midwest Regional Mtg

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Much has Happened in My Family Since we Last Met…

- My youngest child is a tad thrilled about her graduation…

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- ….But that is nothing compared to the joy her parents feel about being empty nesters…

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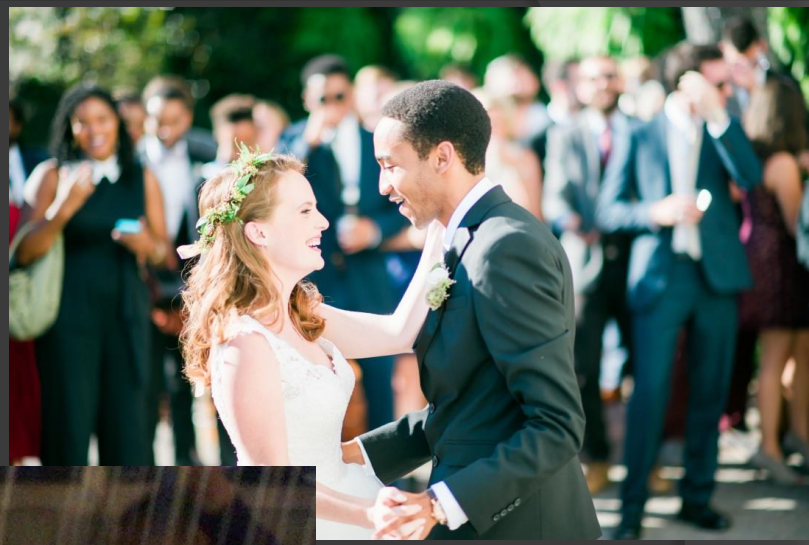
Much has Happened in My Family Since we Last Met…

- My youngest son married his college sweetheart
- In a solemn ceremony…



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Much has happened in the US

- We has a huuuge election!

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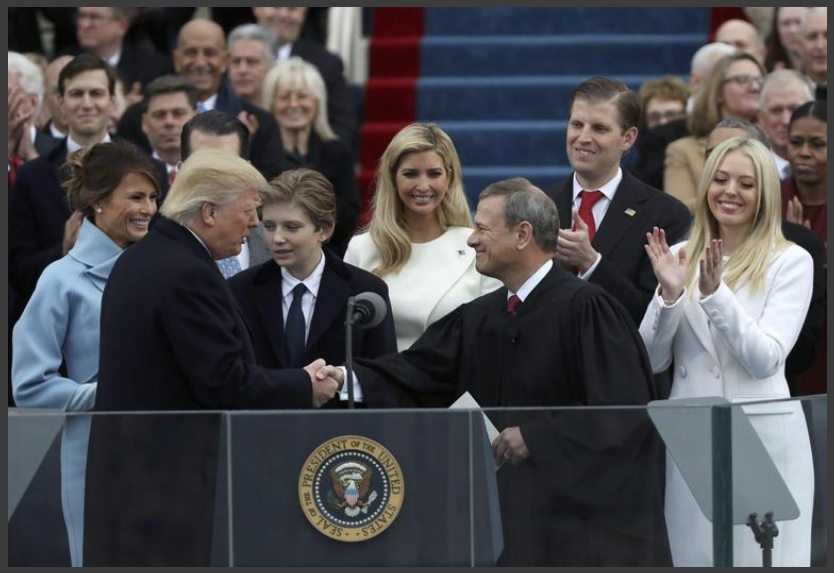
….Many are absolutely ecstatic about the election outcome !!!..



https://youtu.be/vPRfP_TEQ-g?t=30s

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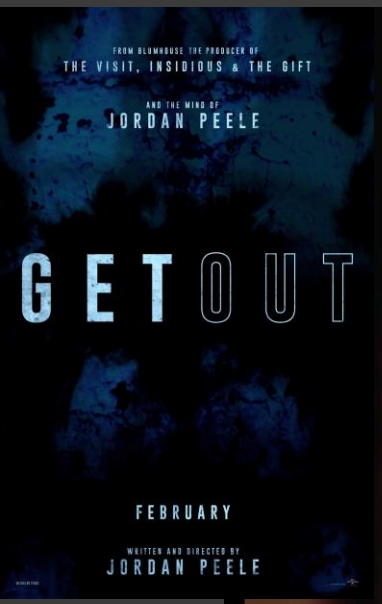
Some* are less optimistic about the election outcome.

*Approximately 2 million more



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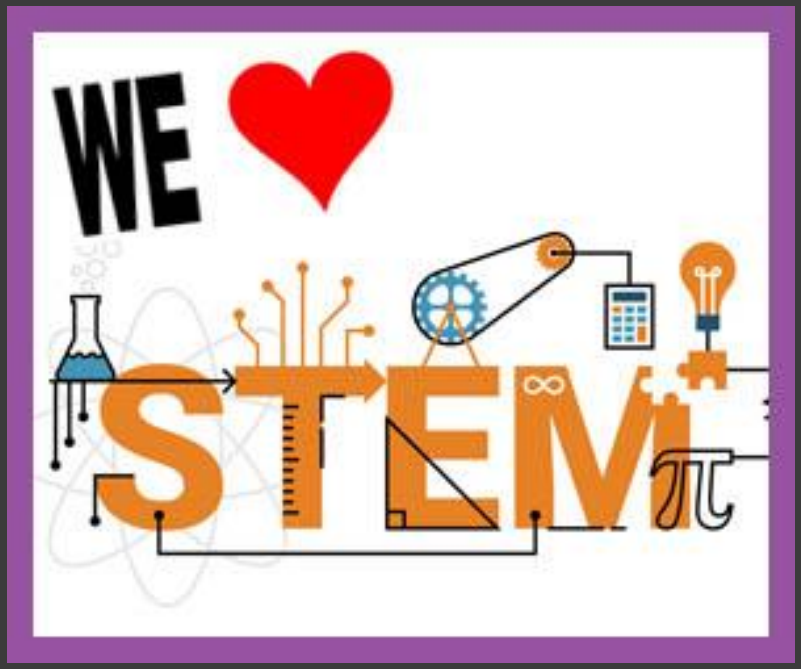
No matter how you view it…

- The NASA Space Grant Mission Continues



Extraordinary things can happen and gifted leaders can be inspired in unremarkable places.

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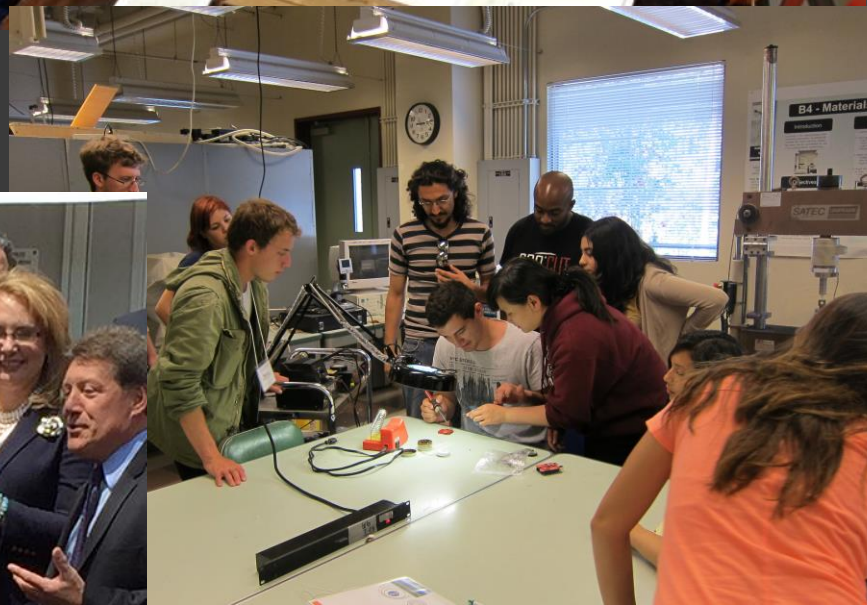
The NASA Space Grant Vision Thrives

***** Fight to win on your battlefield *****



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The NASA Family

- Congratulations
- Introduce our new additions
- Update us on those who have left

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Congratulations

- Chris Koehler (CO SGC)
  - NASA Exceptional Public Achievement Medal for his work on the RockOn and RockSat programs

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Dr. Ramanathan Sugumaran (Sugu)

Iowa NASA Space Grant Director (2010-2013)

Sugu had a passion for research, studying satellite and aerial remote sensing, GIS, and Spatial Decision Support S

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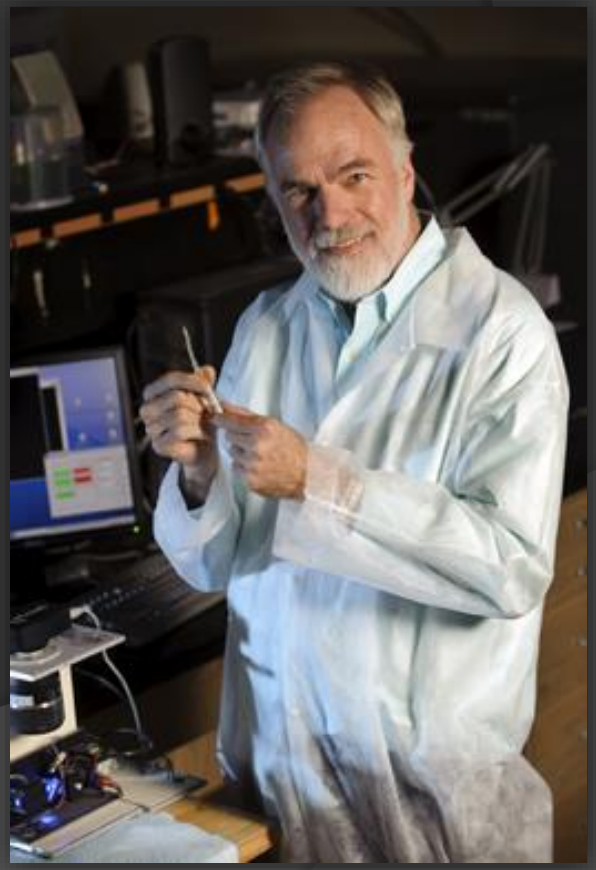
Paul Johnson
Wyoming NASA Space Grant
Retiring in 2017

Thank you for your service!

WYOMING NASA SPACE GRANT consortium



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  Chris Brown (NC to AL)
  Bill Garrard (MN retirement)
  Others…