



## ISU named first Education Partner of 'Women In Aerospace'

Dr. Michael Simpson, President of the International Space University (ISU), announced that the university has been designated as the first "Education Partner" by Women in Aerospace (WIA), an internationally recognized organization.

"By this action, WIA has recognized the key role of ISU in advancing the careers of women in aerospace and preparing women for leadership roles in the global space community," said Debra Facktor Lepore, WIA Chair of the Board and an ISU alumnae. "ISU offers a tremendous multi-disciplinary, multi-cultural experience for students and professionals alike to facilitate global partnerships," she added.

"ISU is proud to be recognized by WIA as a major partner in preparing talented young women for leadership positions in the aerospace workforce," said Dr. Simpson. He further noted that "fully one-quarter of ISU's global alumni network are women, and the ratio has increased to closer to 1/3 in recent years. Amongst U.S. alumni, which represent the largest block of alumni of ISU, 1/3 is women and in the class of 2008, U.S. women outnumbered U.S. men!"

"I anticipate this new relationship will lead to sharing ideas between ISU and WIA for potential joint initiatives that further advance the role of women in aerospace, and that enhance the pipeline of women applicants to ISU", said Steven Brody, ISU's Vice President for North American Operations. In addition, he indicated that "this in turn supports the critical need, especially with upcoming baby-boomer retirements, to attract and retain the best & brightest to the aerospace field, a field traditionally underrepresented by women".

Women in Aerospace (WIA), based in Washington, D.C., is dedicated to expanding women's opportunities for leadership and increasing their visibility in the aerospace community. WIA endeavors to engage and inspire more women to seek careers and advancement in aerospace as one strategic component to filling the workforce needs of the field.

For more information about WIA and its activities, see:

[www.womeninaerospace.org](http://www.womeninaerospace.org)

For information on how ISUs programs help develop and retain the skilled workforce essential to the aerospace profession, see:

[www.isunet.edu/workforce](http://www.isunet.edu/workforce)