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Space Renaissance International 's First Online Congress

world wide web - July 6th, 2011

With a membership composed of space enthusiasts all over the world, holding a meeting on the Internet seems like just the thing to do. On two days, June 25 and 26, 2011, Space Renaissance International lived up to its name by holding its first Congress on line.

Hosted by SRI President Adriano Autino and moderated by Florida space writer G B Leatherwood, the Congress was attended by over 85 members and observers from countries including Italy, the US, Australia, Chile, Mexico, Sri Lanka and many others.

The main topics for discussion were downsizing the cost to orbit, space industrialization, conveying public support and private investment for the new space industry, urging governments to develop space based solar power, and developing a space policy harmonizing the interests of all countries.

To implement these broad and extensive objectives, three projects were presented for group discussion and approval: A civilization risk assessment and management project; identifying the most promising space industrialization development line; and a project to determine the feasibility and design of a virtual O'Neill Habitat to be settled at an Earth-Moon Lagrange point.

In its 2009 "Space Renaissance Manifesto," SRI said "The resources of the Solar System are nearly limitless, whether measured in energy (clean, renewable, readily harvested,) valuable physical materials, or simply space to live and grow. Even a tithe of those resources would allow every person who will live this millennium to enjoy a standard of living higher than any currently available on Earth."

During the conference, Mr. Walter Putnam put it this way: "We need to open new ways of looking at Earth and the Cosmos, with shared values of humanity, rather than remaining locked into philosophies from the 19th and 20th centuries, many from much earlier in history."

Former NASA engineer and risk management specialist Dr. Feng Hsu added, "Space renaissance is a new ideology which must replace socialism and capitalism altogether. SRI is not just about space, it's about sustainable human development and survival."

The Congress reconvenes on Saturday, July 9 and Sunday, June 10, 2011, again by Internet to finalize plans and accept individual responsibilities for leadership of the projects approved in the first session. Anyone interested in human expansion into the unlimited realm of space is invited to attend by registering at the SRI web site, www.spacerenaissance.org.

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