

Ralph Steckler/Space Grant Space Colonization Research and Technology Development

NASA has announced the Ralph Steckler/Space Grant Space Colonization Research and Technology Development Opportunity.

Eligibility

Space Grant Consortia are eligible to participate and each state/jurisdiction can only submit up to two proposals. Therefore, potential participants from Nevada's System of Higher Education institutions and other private organizations in Nevada that wish to participate should **consult with Chris Fritsen**, Director, Nevada NASA Space Grant Consortium, about proposal options **by December 19, 2008** at 775-673-7487, or email to chris.fritsen@dri.edu.

Summary Solicitation Information (excerpted from the solicitation)

Ralph Steckler/Space Grant Space Colonization Research and Technology Development Opportunity.
The National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) Office of Education, in cooperation with the Exploration Systems Mission Directorate (ESMD), invites proposals for the NASA Ralph Steckler/Space Grant Space Colonization Research and Technology Development Opportunity (hereafter "Steckler/Space Grant Opportunity").

Ralph Steckler Background

The late Ralph Steckler, a successful assistant film director and photographer from southern California, maintained a lifelong interest in space colonization. Mr. Steckler left the significant remainder of his estate to NASA "for the colonization of space because [he believed] this is for the betterment of mankind." NASA accepted the gift under the National Space Grant College and Fellowship Act.

Goals

NASA established the NASA Ralph Steckler/Space Grant Space Colonization Research and Technology Development Opportunity to implement Mr. Steckler's testamentary direction and to make a lasting impact on the field of space colonization. For purposes of this endeavor, space colonization is understood to be the establishment of a broad range of human activity in space that, for the most part, is not reliant on Earth's resources.

NASA has defined three aims for the Steckler/Space Grant Opportunity:

- To make a meaningful contribution to enabling the colonization or the settlement of space;
- To leverage activities, where appropriate, through teaming and resource sharing; and
- To support space colonization efforts in innovative and enduring ways based on Mr. Steckler's vision.

Each funded proposal is expected to address innovative, meaningful, and enduring research and technology development activities that could enable space colonization or space settlement by providing a sustained human presence on the Moon as a stepping stone to future exploration of Mars.

The **schedule** for **Phase I** (the current solicitation) is:

Notices of Intent Due: **01/16/2009**

Proposals Due: **02/19/2009**

The **Phase I** solicitation may be found at: <http://nspires.nasaprs.com/external/>

Go to: **Solicitations**, then **Open Solicitations**, then click on: **Ralph Steckler/Space Grant Space Colonization Research and Technology Development Opportunity Phase I**, then click on **Announcement Documents**.