
Aerospace Futures

Chairperson Report 2013

10 July – 12 July 2013, Adelaide

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Chairperson Report

Aerospace Futures 2013 was held in Adelaide, July 10 – 12. The annual national event of the Australian Youth Aerospace Association hosted nearly one hundred delegates from across the nation and featured a comprehensive speaker program of presentations from around the world. Aerospace Futures successfully provided attendees with an insight into local and international developments in the aerospace industry and facilitated networking amongst delegates and speakers.

The whole event kicked off with the Official Launch Night. This was held at the historic Bonython Hall on the campus of the University of Adelaide on the Tuesday evening prior to formal conference proceedings. The challenge at hand was a Design and Build style competition where delegates needed to build their own aircraft capable of straight flight for the longest distance. Designs were creative; some unique, others drawing influence from conventional or historic designs.

A late addition to the social program of Aerospace Futures 2013 included the Official Cocktail Night supported by Aerospace Concepts. This was held in the Grenfell Room of the Crowne Plaza Adelaide on the final day and evening of Friday, July 12.

The three day speaker program was rich, exciting, and included five speakers via teleconference. Presentations covered off-Earth mining, aircraft structures & maintenance, commercial spaceflight, purchase of Australia's new air combat capability, real air crash investigations, robots, unmanned aerial vehicles, Australian space policy, postgraduate research, Australian Defence Force and more.

Aerospace Futures attracted Sponsors from across the country that included companies and educational institutions. Without their financial or in-kind contributions we could not make ends meet nor keep a low delegate fee. Their support was integral to the success of Aerospace Futures 2013. On behalf of the committee, we are very grateful for their contribution.

The reputation of the event in the eyes of industry can be seen as special opportunities are offered only for Aerospace Futures delegates. The Australian National University AITC had reserved one internship position for an Aerospace Futures delegate. The Australian Young

Space Leadership Award was also presented to six Aerospace Futures delegates on the final day, with thanks to the AYAA and the Victorian Space Science Education Centre.

Aerospace Futures was planned during a myriad of other space activities taking place in Adelaide, including the Australian Space Development Conference and the South Australia Space School. Other public events included the AIAA Adelaide Section public presentation titled 'An Exploration of Hypersonics Research' featuring Professor Russell Boyce of the University of Queensland and the Space Industry Association of Australia hosted their Inaugural Distinguished Lecture featuring Dr. Yasushi Horikawa, Chair of UNCOPUOS.

Specific gratitude is expressed for the assistance and care of the Crowne Plaza Adelaide who worked to ensure Aerospace Futures was a success. The venue provided striking views looking South over the Adelaide Hills regions including south of the Adelaide CBD, over Hindmarsh Square.

This event would not have occurred, if not for the dedication of volunteers throughout the AYAA. This specifically includes the Aerospace Futures organising committee who diligently planned everything while managing full time study, part-time jobs and the like. It has been a great pleasure being a part of this team. I would also like to express thanks to the executive committee of the AYAA, including event chairs and state representatives who assisted in promoting the event interstate.

Ultimately a room full of passionate delegates provides the energy and atmosphere that brings the event together. It's the spirit of young people and their eagerness to participate that makes Aerospace Futures what it is. It is testimony to this large and active body of people willing to develop and foster the aerospace industry that the AYAA and Aerospace Futures survives and flourishes.

Only time can tell where Aerospace Futures will be in coming years, as next year, 2014, marks the exciting milestone of half a decade! I wish all the best for the delegates as young leaders in their pursuits to play an integral role in the global aerospace industry.

John Furness
Chairperson – Aerospace Futures 2013



J.W. Furness

Sponsors



Speakers

Stewart Schreckengast

Professor Salah Sukkarieh

Professor Andrew Dempster

Denis Bowden

Michael Edwards

Michael Brett

Daniel Faber

Squadron Leader David Cole

Dr. Naomi Mathers

Russell Taylor

Brett Biddington

Bree Downs-Wooley

Dr. Sean Tuttle

Anthony Wicht

Mark Ramsey

Dr. Michael West

Peter Nikolof

James Chartres

Air Vice Marshall Kym Osley

Enrico Palermo

Andrea Boyd

Associate Professor Adrian Barbulescu

Michael Davis

Campbell Pegg

Jonathon Icimsoy

Aerospace Futures Organising Committee 2013

John Furness

Dilan Wijedasa

James Bass

Sophie Dawson

Nicholas Wells

Saman Aghdam

Kady Jamal

Lukasz Stepień

Zihua Zhu

Shubhankar Verma