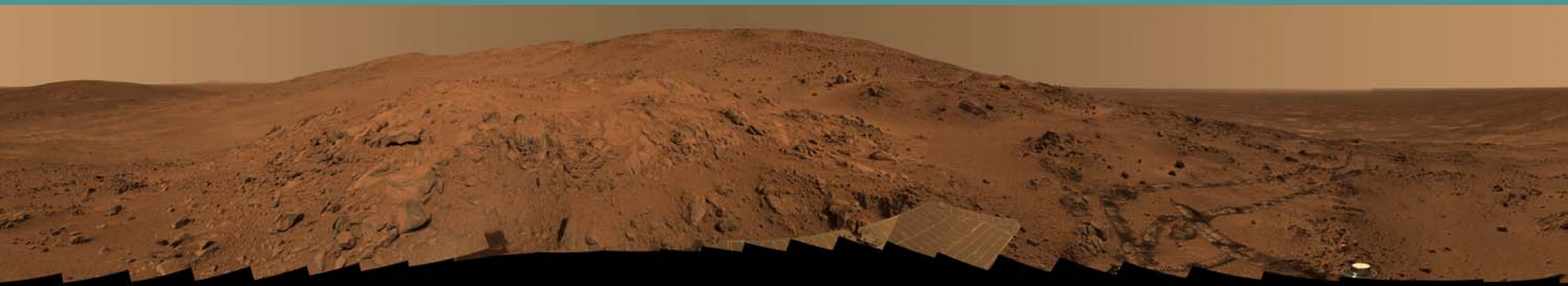


Space Exploration and the Humanist

Mark A. Bullock
Southwest Research Institute

Robert L. Frodeman
University of North Texas





Center for Space Exploration Policy Research

[home](#)[about us](#)[projects](#)[publications](#)[meetings](#)[links](#)

SwRI
Department of
Space Studies

Collaborating **Institutions**

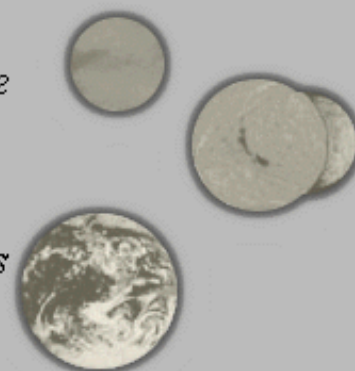
- ✦ **University of North Texas**
Department of Philosophy
- ✦ **Colorado School of Mines**

The Center for Space Exploration Policy Research

...how vast those Orbs must be, and how inconsiderable the Earth, the Theatre upon which all our mighty Designs, all our Navigations, and all our Wars are transacted, is when compared to them. A very fit Consideration, and matter of Reflection, for those Kings and Princes who sacrifice the Lives of so many People, only to flatter their Ambition in being Masters of some pitiful corner of this small Spot.

--Christiaan Huygens, 1698

The Center for Space Exploration Policy Research resides within the Department of Space Studies at Southwest Research Institute in Boulder, Colorado. CSEPR is a collaborative project with the Department of Philosophy and Religion Studies at the University of North Texas. The goal of CSEPR is to stimulate reflection on the ethical, cultural, and philosophic aspects of space policy. Initial





Center for Space Exploration Policy Research

[home](#)

[about us](#)

[projects](#)

[publications](#)

[meetings](#)

[links](#)

About Us

- ✦ [Mission Statement](#)
- ✦ [Advisory Board](#)

Personnel

Director:

[Mark Bullock](#), Department of Space Studies,
Southwest Research Institute

Co-Director:

[Robert Frodeman](#), Department of Philosophy,
University of North Texas

Associates:

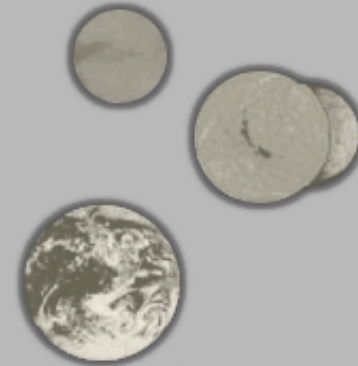
[David Grinspoon](#), Department of Space
Studies, Southwest Research Institute

[Clark Chapman](#), Department of Space Studies,
Southwest Research Institute

[Eugene C. Hargrove](#), Department of
Philosophy, University of North Texas

[J. Britt Holbrook](#), Department of Philosophy,
University of North Texas

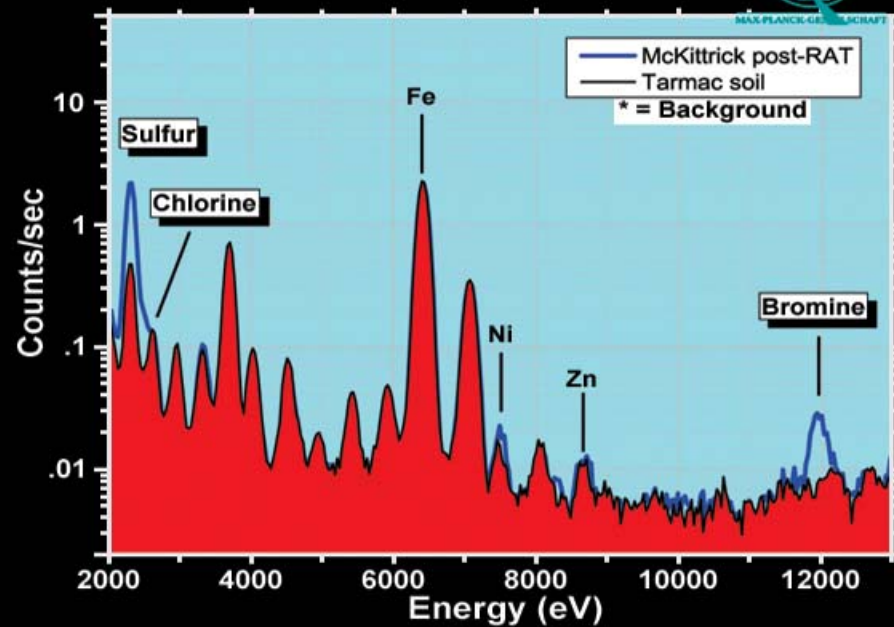
[Carl Mitcham](#). Liberal Arts and International




Data and Beauty



APXS Rock and Soil X-ray Spectra at Meridiani



Center for Space Exploration Policy Research -- Projects

- The Risks of Space Exploration
 - Asteroid and Comet Impact Mitigation
 - Planetary Protection
 - The Space Market
 - The Political Philosophy of Space
 - Public Perceptions of Space
 - Ethics and Values in Space Exploration
- 

The Risks of Space Exploration

- Space Exploration is dangerous. People will die going to the Moon, Mars and beyond, and in private flights to space.
- In all major civil, military, and private projects, failures occur and people die.
- How are we to think about the risk of death in human space flight, and how do we deal with disasters without bringing space exploration to a halt?

Asteroid and Comet Impact Mitigation

- Public attitudes about protecting Earth from asteroid impacts range from incredulity to fear.
- Assessments of the public's trust in the scientific community indicate uneasiness with its arrogance and suspicions about scientific motivation.
- A dialogue between scientists, policymakers, ethicists and students is necessary to develop acceptable, understandable approaches to mitigating the risk of comet and asteroid impacts.

Planetary Protection

- Present Planetary Protection policies are oriented toward protecting science, not potential biospheres of other worlds.
- Deeply held beliefs about the sanctity of life may generate opposition to in situ exploration of the planets.
- How do we communicate about the possibility of infecting the Earth with an 'Andromeda Strain'?

The Space Market

- What is the future of NASA funding? In particular, how robust are space exploration initiatives, and what drives them? What roles do national pride, public curiosity and wonder, and economic and political forces, play in the continuity of the public space exploration enterprise?



- GO TO ORBIT
- SPACEFLIGHT
- SPACEFLIGHT TRAINING
- STEPS TO SPACE
- CORPORATE PROGRAMS
- COMPANY INFORMATION
- MEDIA RESOURCES
- CAREERS



62 MILES (100KM)

50 MILES (80KM)

15 MILES (24KM)

12 MILES (19KM)

Our Mission is Your Spaceflight

Contact Us

CLICK HERE



Program Info

CLICK HERE



"Live your dreams!"

Greg Olsen
Private
Space Explorer

Subscribe to the Space Adventures® eBlast and receive regular updates about our new tours, programs, and missions:

NAME:

E-MAIL:

SUBMIT >>

DSE- Alpha

Space Adventures Offers Private Voyage to the Moon

To learn more please visit

www.DeepSpaceExpeditions.com

PRESS

07/27
2005

Space Adventures' Orbital Spaceflight Candidate, Greg Olsen, Confirmed to the Soyuz TMA-7 Crew
Third private space explorer scheduled to launch to the International Space Station this October

The Political Philosophy of Space

- What should be the property rights of individuals and nations in space? What is the proper public role of space exploration, and what aspects are best left to the private sector? What types of governance of space are possible? How might space exploration help or hinder political processes on Earth?

Public Perceptions of Space

- Public perceptions of space, space exploration, and human spaceflight are shaped by the media, film, and science fiction. Artists and writers can show us imagined futures, within which values, ethics and outcomes are investigated. What are the links between public support for space exploration, education, and the political processes that enable space missions and science?

Ethics and Values in Space Exploration

- The implications of a particular technology, or of a course of action such as exploring the frontier of space, are written not just in the science, but in the changes they make to the lives of human beings. How can philosophers, writers, and policymakers work with scientists to understand the implications of a space-faring civilization?

