



CU-Boulder grad student speaks with members of Congress in support of NASA

BAY AREA HOUSTON, TEXAS – From May 19-22, 2008, Bruce Davis, a graduate student at the University of Colorado in Boulder, Colo., traveled with 35 students and 111 other representatives on behalf of Citizens for Space Exploration (CSE), to Capitol Hill in Washington, D.C., with a singular purpose – to support a robust space exploration program with a goal of investment in NASA set at 1 percent of the federal budget. The Coalition for Space Exploration, in conjunction with the Bay Area Houston Economic Partnership’s Aerospace Advisory Committee, sponsored Davis.

BAHEP is home to the CSE-Texas Committee. Bob Mitchell, president of the partnership, said, “The significance of CSE’s annual visit to Washington cannot be underestimated. By meeting personally with these decision makers in Washington, we are better able to impress upon them NASA’s scientific, technological, and economic impact that affects us in so many positive ways.”

CSE works with elected officials, corporate and individual contacts to ensure continued political and public support for our nation’s space programs, particularly the International Space Station, the Space Shuttle, and the new Constellation Program. CSE is comprised of a diverse group of small and large business representatives, students and teachers, and county/municipal officials and employees.

Davis, who is pursuing his doctorate in aerospace engineering, joined other undergraduate and graduate students from colleges and universities across the nation to inform elected officials of the importance they place on the space program. In addition to aerospace engineering, their majors included astrophysics, mechanical engineering, electrical engineering, math and physics. The program and its many initiatives relate directly to their future careers. The students wanted to ensure that their representatives were aware not only of their support of NASA but also of the electoral influence that they and their fellow students and faculty carry.

When asked about his participation in the CSE trip, Davis replied, “I’m here, because I feel that the education of our youth, from K through 12, as well as college, is really important to the future of our country. It’s important at a technical level, but also on an inspirational level. I want to support that.”

Davis’ hometown is Manlius, N.Y., where he graduated from Fayetteville-Manlius High School in 2002. He is the son of Sally Lockwood and Lee Davis.

- other info below -

Bay Area Houston is an economically and internationally diversified, high-tech region that is home to NASA-Johnson Space Center and numerous industries including aerospace, specialty chemical, and a rapidly growing health care industry.

Bay Area Houston Economic Partnership is a member-driven organization that provides the leadership to stimulate regional economic development and employment in southeast Texas. Its members include aerospace, petrochemical, and healthcare companies, developers, bankers and real estate brokers, 13 cities and Galveston and Harris Counties. Visit www.bayareahouston.com.

Space Alliance Technology Outreach Program is funded by the State of Texas and NASA. The program provides technical assistance to small businesses to solve technical challenges they are unable to solve themselves. Visit www.spacetechsolutions.com

Coalition for Space Exploration is a collaboration of space industry businesses and advocacy groups organized to help educate and inform the public about the value and benefits of space exploration. Visit www.spacecoalition.com.

News release

Contact: Kathryn Cooper
Communications Manager
2525 Bay Area Blvd., Suite 640
Houston, Texas 77058
Phone: 281.486.5535
Fax: 281.486.5068
Email: kathryn@bayareahouston.com
Visit: www.bayareahouston.com