

Media Announcement

School students to assist space scientists to tackle the United Nation's Sustainable Development Goals

Project to be launched at 9 am Friday 6th September 2019 at Hamilton Secondary College, Marion Road, Adelaide

This Friday an innovative new collaboration between high school students and some of Australia's leading space scientists will be launched at Hamilton Secondary College in Adelaide.

Students will be able to participate in this initiative by identifying a Sustainable Development Goal and developing a project using space technologies to solve the problem and highlight the social and economic impacts.

'This joint initiative between SmartSatCRC and Hamilton Secondary College aims to make young students aware of the sustainability challenges we are facing, and the potential for space based technological solutions to achieve the goals identified by the UN, assisted by some of Australia's leading space experts' Professor Andy Koronios CEO of SmartSatCRC says.

The United Nations has identified 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) to address global challenges related to environment, climate, poverty, peace and justice. The SDGs recognise the connection between people and the planet, and changes we can make to maintain our land, oceans, climate and global health.

'The SmartSat CRC is focusing on inspiring young people to pursue careers in space by building a culture of entrepreneurship and igniting a curiosity for space among students through a space-related STEM program' Professor Koronios says. The CRC industry development program is designed to link with relevant curricula in Australian schools and educational institutions to promote STEM teaching and learning through space activity.

'With a growing space industry and increasing job opportunities, now is the time to inspire the next generation of space entrepreneurs, engineers and researchers' Mrs. Peta Kourbelis, Principal of Hamilton Secondary College says.

'South Australian schools, industry and government work cohesively to ensure STEM subjects are a priority in the school curriculum, while building a culture of entrepreneurship and igniting a curiosity for space at an early age' Mrs Kourbelis says.

ABOUT THE SMARTSAT CRC

The new SmartSat Cooperative Research Centre is one of the most significant space research collaborations ever forged in Australia. This research powerhouse brings together over 85 national and international partners who have invested over \$190 million. Together with \$55 million in Federal Government funding, this represents a \$245 million research effort over seven years.

The SmartSat CRC will catalyse the transformation and growth of our space industry with focussed activities in the following three key areas:

- Advanced Communications, Connectivity & Internet of Things (IoT) Technologies;
- Advanced Satellite Systems, Sensor & Intelligence; and
- Next generation Earth Observation Data Services.

The SmartSat CRC is partnering with Hamilton Secondary School Space Education Centre and other higher education groups such as the Southern Hemisphere Space Studies Program and align activities with the National STEM School Education Strategy principles in programs such as the STEM Professionals in Schools and CREST Awards.

ABOUT HAMILTON SECONDARY COLLEGE

Leading the way in space education, Hamilton Secondary College is home to the state's first South Australian Space School. The specialist school includes a new Space Centre, featuring an interactive Mars landscape and control room, with students exercising STEM skills to solve space and earth science-related problems.

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

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