

STANFORD ON THE MOON ALUMNI INITIATIVE, 2000-2015. Steve Durst
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The 2005 Stanford University Homecoming Reunion weekend will mark 5 years since the 2000 launch of the Stanford on the Moon alumni initiative with a major, historic gathering on Campus, Friday, October 21.

The Stanford on the Moon 2005 Conference, with almost 100 pre-registrants three months before the event, will assess various possibilities for a Stanford presence on the Moon in 2010 and 2015 -- the 50th graduation anniversary of the initiative's founding class of 1965. Along with a resourceful and diverse Advisory Panel, and with faculty, students, administrators and friends, alumni from classes spanning 50 years will advance organizational and funding operations necessary for achieving the 2010 and 2015 established goals. Longer range 21st century opportunities for the Stanford Overseas Studies Program also will be acknowledged.

Projects for early consideration by the Advisory Panel involve lunar orbital, power, robotic, biolab, astrophysics, and geology research and science. For 2015, human lunar activity involving Biosphere and CELSS applications, and an alumni supported Lunar orbital swing-by Apollo 8 style are being discussed, as are spin-offs, benefits, consequences and interactions between Stanford on the Moon and other national, international and commercial space / lunar developments.

A unique fusion of space enterprise, space education and space advocacy, the Stanford on the Moon alumni initiative may offer private sector examples for the space community and catalyze similar organization initiatives as it works to engage the enthusiasm and resources of the students, faculty, administration, friends and the more than 100,000 living alumni that constitute the Stanford community.