

The Necessity of Educating the World About: The Needs of a Permanent Return to the Moon

Robert E. Strong
West Liberty State College SMART-Center
1610 Warwood Avenue
Wheeling, West Virginia 26003 USA
strongro@wlsc.edu
Work Phone: (304) 277-2308
FAX: (304) 277-3503
Key Word: Education

Proposed paper abstract for presentation in Session 12 (Global Education and Culture in the Space Age) of the International Lunar Conference 2003

Before a human return to the Moon can be envisioned, a realistic international - educational plan must be in place to sway worldwide public opinion. If the political will of the people of the present and future space-faring nations of Earth support a human return to the Moon, this will be the new direction and mission of the world space agencies. Adequate funding allocation for a permanent human return to the Moon needs to be international in nature and have international public support.

Topics to be discussed in this paper:

- Political Concerns and Needs for a Permanent Return to the Moon
- Educating the World's public about Needs of a Permanent Return to the Moon
- Addressing Public Concerns About a Permanent Return to the Moon
 - Fears, Misconceptions, Superstitions, and Misinformation

Education allows the people of the World the opportunity to make better decisions concerning a human return to the Moon. Three facets of Human Return to the Moon (HRTTM) educational campaign:

- 1) pre-k through 12th grade interdisciplinary, cross curricular, multimedia HRTTM curriculum
- 2) the creation of the *Moon Corps*
- 3) broad based public global education of all peoples about the nature of HRTTM

Key to HRTTM is the *Moon Corps*. The *Moon Corps* is based on the successful track record of the American version of the French created *Peace Corps*. *Moon Corps* personnel will be a highly trained group of educators, psychologists, technicians, and cultural integrity experts that are sent to developed and developing nations to supervise the implementation of and teacher training of the HRTTM curriculum.

Robert is presently the Director of the WLSC SMART-Center, a hands-on science center in Wheeling, West Virginia. Robert believes that a permanent human return to the Moon is key to insuring the survival of the human species. Robert was a Peace Corps Volunteer in Benin, West Africa, from 1980 to 1982.