



**American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics**

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## International Space Activities Committee

### *“Lunch-and-Learn”*



## **The Rise of China’s Space Program**

*The International Space University’s Recent Beijing Session &*

*AIAA Houston Section’s Chinese Sister Sections*

*Presented by Marlo Graves & Stephen Abrams*

**DATE: Thursday, May 29, 2008**

**PLACE: Gilruth Center Lonestar Room (upstairs)**

**PRESENTATION: Noon to 1:00 PM**

**ROOM CAPACITY: 96**

**11:30 AM – 1:00 PM** *Appetizers (Italian Antipasto), iced tea, & water*

*Compliments of AIAA Houston Section*

In October 2003, China launched its first human space mission with astronaut Yang Liwei. This milestone made China only the third nation in history capable of independently putting a human into space. In October 2005, China launched two more astronauts into space, Fei Junlong and Nie Haisheng on a five day mission. China’s space ambitions include sending people to the Moon. This summer, AIAA members Marlo Graves & Stephen (Brad) Abrams participated in the International Space University (ISU) Summer Session Program’07 (SSP07) held in Beijing, China. They were able to hear lectures and panel discussions from Chinese and other international space experts as well as visit major Chinese space facilities such as the Chinese Mission Control Center. During this Lunch & Learn they will share their experiences in Beijing and the plans AIAA Houston Section has to create a sister section in Beijing and continue the section’s 22-year-old tradition (since 1986, thanks to James C. McLane, Jr.) of maintaining our sister section relationship with the Shanghai Astronautical Society (SAS), whose current contact person in Shanghai is the SAS Secretary General Wu Wenxuan.

Marlo Graves has worked in the space industry since January 1998. She currently works for The Boeing Company in the Space Shuttle Systems Integration Group. During the summer of 2006, Ms. Graves was a student at ISU for the session that was held in Strasbourg, France. During the summer of 2007, she was an ISU staff member for the session in Beijing, China. Ms. Graves is currently learning Chinese and is leading AIAA Houston Section’s work to create a sister section in Beijing. Her educational background is in aerospace. She received a BSE in Mechanical & Aerospace Engineering from Princeton University in 1995 and an MS in Space Architecture from the University of Houston in 2004.

Stephen (Brad) Abrams grew up in San Antonio, Texas. From an early age he was tinkering in the garage and showing interest in science and engineering. Brad attended Tufts University in Medford, Massachusetts for his Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering. After graduation, Brad was employed by Lockheed Martin, working on small hardware projects for both the Space Shuttle and International Space Station programs. He then left Lockheed to join Boeing in 1998, where he performed as a test engineer for the Space Station’s Active Thermal Control System. After two years, he began project engineering and management, where he continues to support three of Boeing’s contracts - Space Shuttle, Constellation (Ares), and Secure Border Initiative (SBI).

*AIAA membership is not required. Badges are not required in this building. If you plan to attend, registration is recommended on-line at [www.aiaa-houston.org](http://www.aiaa-houston.org). For additional information contact our communications chair at [communications@aiaa-houston.org](mailto:communications@aiaa-houston.org) or our section chair at 281-244-3925.*