



**A modest proposal for the National SEDS 2006 Conference to be hosted by
The University of Arizona SEDS
During September 2006 or February 2007**

To the ladies and gentlemen of SEDS National,

I would like to take this time to thank you for reviewing this application for the SEDS 2006 conference from the University of Arizona SEDS. With the recent resurgence in SEDS activity, building a strong conference is crucial to the future of our organization, and I am proud to see many worthy applicants in the queue. Despite these very qualified competitors, I believe the University of Arizona is the prime location to host the next SEDS conference. The UofA offers SEDS a location deep in the heart of the future of space exploration and discovery, with state of the art facilities and beautiful weather year round. Furthermore University of Arizona SEDS is dedicated towards ensuring the 2006 conference will be focused on workshops geared towards the development of the National Chapter as a whole.

Joshua Vincent Nelson
President, University of Arizona SEDS
Director of National Projects, National SEDS

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1. Facilities

The University of Arizona is a top-ranked research university, receiving over \$400 million dollars in research funding annually. As a result our school has state of the art facilities to match, including:

i) Student Union:

The University of Arizona has the largest Student Union in the continental United States (without an interior mall). Features include:

- Grand ballroom seating 2,000 people
- 23 meeting/conference rooms ranging in capacity from 1,000 to 20 participants
- Full catering services
- Dining services for over 150,000 meals per week
- Movie theatre, Recreation (game) hall, and much more...

ii) Lunar and Planetary Lab

UA-SEDS' main sponsor, the Lunar and Planetary lab has given SEDS permission to use any of their state of the art facilities for SEDS meetings, lectures, and more. This will include, but is by no means limited to:

- A high tech 350 seat auditorium
- Various sized high tech meeting rooms
- 3 floor atrium for more casual presentations
- Large computer lab with open access for any visitors

iii)Motor Pool:

The UofA motor pool provides reliable, efficient transportation for all University functions at competitive rates. Every vehicle possibly required for this conference can be rented inexpensively from the University including:

- Golf carts
- 15 passenger vans (for airport to campus trips and tours)
- Passenger cars
- And any other vehicle possibly needed.

iv) Hotels:

As a college town, the University of Arizona has a number of temporary housing options for any budget.

- **Marriott:** We have a 3 star Marriott (4 star Marriott Rewards) hotel on campus, providing a higher class stay right on campus, for a reasonable price.
- **Sheraton:** A minute's walk from campus is a 4 Points Sheraton, providing all the benefits worthy of this high standing.
- **Other options:** There are dozens of smaller cheaper hotels, motels, and hostels across the campus area, providing an economy option for attendees. SEDS members will also of course get the option of rooming with UA-SEDS members.

v) Other facilities:

Our campus also has:

- Underground integrated learning center with over 400 public access computer and multimedia editing stations.
- Huge mall, running the length of campus, providing an outdoor option for several lectures, displays, or SEDS related activities.
- 2 large aperture telescopes on campus, and 1 beautiful planetarium.
- Campus wide wireless network / internet

2. Location, and speaker availability

The UofA is a hub for the astronomical and aerospace community. Not only are we located under some of the most beautiful skies in the nation, but we are ideally located mere hours from:

- **JPL**
- **Kitt Peak**
- **Los Alamos**
- **Mohave**
- **And many other hot locations for astronomical and aerospace research**

Our proximity to these locations will allow us to bring speakers from the state of the art in these fields, at a minimum of cost, significantly reducing the overall conference cost. (Almost half of the MIT and Illinois conference preliminary budgets, at almost \$30k, were for speaker travel.)

Furthermore Tucson has an ideal climate year round, offering virtually no chance of cancellation due to weather.

Arizona offers the idea conference environment, with beautiful weather 99% of the year, and the average temperature in September of 2005 was 83 degrees.

3. Conference focus

The focus of the 2006 SEDS conference, if the UofA is chosen to host it, will be SEDS National development. The focuses of the MIT and Illinois conferences have both been on bringing key members of the Aerospace industry and community to talk to SEDS members about the opportunities available to enterprising students. This networking was crucial to re-establishing the SEDS organization in the center of the aerospace community.

Now that the organization is back on its feet, it is time to shift the focus of the conferences back to their original purpose, to bring SEDS members together to develop not space, but our organization as a whole.

Space Vision 2006 if hosted at the University of Arizona will be focused on SEDS development. This key component to the SEDS conferences has fallen on the wayside during the past two years, but must now be our principle focus.

University of Arizona SEDS will be bringing in executives and experts from various other organizations such as:

- Mars Society
- AAS – American Astronomical Society
- NSF – National Science Foundation
- Space Generation

Their purpose at the conference will be to administrate a variety of workshops geared towards developing the SEDS organization.

4. Speakers / Events proposed

Thursday

1:00 PM	-	-	Tours, including: Steward Mirror Lab Kitt Peak Titan Missile Silo Phoenix Building Carbon Dating facility Particle Accelerator	
2:00 PM		-		
3:00 PM		-		
4:00 PM		-		
5:00 PM		-		
6:00 PM		-		
7:00 PM		Public Lecture		
8:00 PM				
9:00 PM				SEDS Social / Star Party
10:00 PM				

Friday

8:00 AM	Welcome Speech		Tours, including: Steward Mirror Lab
9:00 AM	SEDS - Breakfast		
10:00 AM	National Elections	Guest speaker	Kitt Peak
11:00 AM		" "	
12:00 PM		Lunch	Titan Missile Silo Phoenix Building Carbon Dating facility Particle Accelerator
1:00 PM	Chapter Affairs	Finance	
2:00 PM			
3:00 PM	Phoenix Lecture	Large Binocular	
4:00 PM		Telescope engineering talk	
5:00 PM	National Projects	Website / Internet resources	
6:00 PM			
7:00 PM	Break	-	
8:00 PM	-	Social Event at Gentle Ben's	-
9:00 PM			
10:00 PM		Bar and Grill	

Saturday

Tours, including:

8:00 AM	Opening talk	-	Steward Mirror Lab Kitt Peak Titan Missile Silo Phoenix Building Carbon Dating facility Particle Accelerator
9:00 AM	Constitution Debate	Cassini / Huygens talk	
10:00 AM			
11:00 AM	Lunch	Career Fair / Research fair	
12:00 PM			
1:00 PM			
2:00 PM	Organizational Development	Student Research talks	
3:00 PM	Space Defense Talk		
4:00 PM	Publications		
5:00 PM	Break	-	
6:00 PM			
7:00 PM	Formal banquet	-	
8:00 PM			
9:00 PM			
10:00 PM	PARTY!		

Sunday:

8:00 AM	Pending discussion :-)	Tours, including: Steward Mirror Lab Kitt Peak Titan Missile Silo Phoenix Building Carbon Dating facility Particle Accelerator
9:00 AM		
10:00 AM		
11:00 AM		
12:00 PM		
1:00 PM		
2:00 PM		
3:00 PM		
4:00 PM		