



UK STUDENTS FOR THE EXPLORATION AND DEVELOPMENT OF SPACE

AUTUMN 2020 UPDATE

An overview of the last and next six months for the people important to us

NEWS

- [Preparing for Launch](#), our new podcast, is coming to the end of its first series
- **A Questions of Space:** our new competition for teams of grads and undergrads to show off their space knowledge
- We held our first [Student Space Symposium](#) on 10th October 2020 with nearly 450 live viewers
- We wrote an [article](#) in [ROOM Space Journal](#) (Summer 2020, #24) about space-related opportunities for young people
- We asked young people what they want **improved in job application processes**. Read the key outcomes further down
- Our [Diversity and Inclusion](#) work was featured in **Women in Aerospace Europe's** newsletter
- [Careers Launch Online](#), our latest brand of careers events, went live on Saturday with 'A Space for Black Voices'

UPCOMING

- We're celebrating 5 years of [SpaceCareers.uk](#) with '[The Space Careers Show](#)' on the **7th November 2020**
- The [National Student Space Conference 2021](#) will be online over the weekend of **6-7th March 2021**, with a **different sponsorship scheme** than usual, read on for more details
- **Diversity in Space Careers (DISC)** will take place in **early 2021**, keep an eye out for the date!

HOW CAN YOU HELP

- Sponsor the National Student Space Conference (NSSC), see more details below
- We'd love you to [contribute questions](#) for A Question of Space
- Sponsor our National Rocketry Championships or Satellite Design Competition (email rocketry@ukseds.org for info)
- We're looking for a location to hold our Satellite Design Competition final in Aug 2021 (email satellites@ukseds.org for info)
- **Are you a UKSEDS Alumni?** Register on this [new form](#) for opportunities to support us and attend meetups!
- We are in the initial stage of launching the **UKSEDS Mentorship Programme** and are currently **looking for professionals to be involved as mentors**. Do you have some spare time to inspire and guide the next generation? Click [here](#) to sign up!

We're very grateful to [Raytheon](#) and [Spacebit](#) for their support as Corporate Sponsors!

The Raytheon logo, featuring the word 'Raytheon' in a bold, red, sans-serif font.

The Spacebit logo, featuring the word 'SPACEBIT' in a bold, black, sans-serif font.

THE UKSEDS COMMITTEE

Our Executive Committee team this year consists of:

- **Jacob Smith (Chair)**
- **Sophia Lee Roberts (Vice-Chair)**
- **Arran Reedman (Treasurer)**
- **Alex Crossman (Secretary)**
- **Antonio Duduianu (At-Large)**
- **Paige Ramsden (At-Large)**

We're delighted to have welcomed **Julia Hunter-Anderson, Matjaz Vidmar, and Sheila Kanani** as charity Trustees, who join **Portia Bowman, Matthew Goodman, and Graeme Taylor**. Everyone at UKSEDS is hugely grateful for the support of **Gill Norman, Kerry Sanz, and Craig Brown**, whose terms as Trustees came to an end this year. **Thank you all!**

We are always keen for new ideas for projects and events, as well as support in delivering the work we do. Please get in touch at exec@ukseds.org if you are interested in working with us.



INNOVATING AROUND COVID-19

This year has presented new challenges for us, but we're proud of how we've managed to work together to make the last 6 months a success.

To help students and teachers, we are creating a [new website](#) with a host of outreach activities to do at home, as well as holding more **regular career-focused webinars** to provide advice to our members in these difficult times. We have also started a new podcast called **Preparing for Launch**, which is now coming to the end of its first season.

With teams unable to move into the build phase of our competitions, we worked with our partners to create additional design deliverables that challenged participants above what is usually required, and held online finals, reaching a much larger audience than usually possible.

APPLICATION PROCESS SURVEY

We asked our members about their views on application processes for internships and early career jobs, with **lack of feedback being highlighted across the board**. Data on feedback is shown right. Additionally:

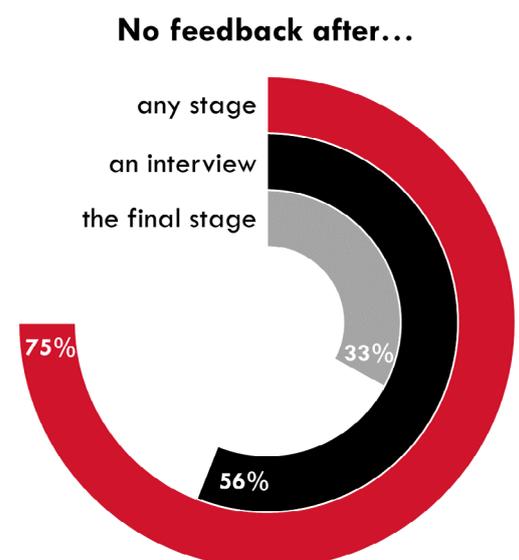
- **87% of respondents have at least once received no communication at all** from a company after any stage of the application process (n=47). This has happened on average 5 times to each respondent.
- On average, each respondent decided not to apply to 7 jobs in the last 12 months because of a small number of "essential requirements".

Improving the recruitment process is a win-win for everyone. As one respondent put it:

"Despite being rejected from one internship, the feedback cheered me up. Before I was getting nowhere with job applications and the feedback gave me something to work on."

If you are serious about attracting the right people to your organisation, and the space sector in general, we propose the following:

- ✓ Communicate at least a generic feedback statement showing the common falling points of candidates
- ✓ Always give feedback after an interview, even if it's just one thing the successful applicant pipped them on!
- ✓ Think more about the requirements you're asking for. Skills and knowledge can be gained from extracurricular activities - does a student really need industry experience for an entry-level role? And what can be learnt on the job instead? - not all students get the same opportunities.



Out of 218 unsuccessful applications in the last 12 months

UKSEDS MEMBERSHIP

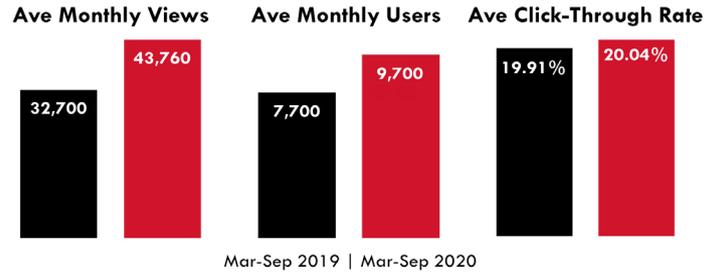


680
Members

80
Volunteers

Highest since records began!

23
Branches



- **5 careers webinars** since March, including two with HE Space. More to come!

COMPETITIONS

We really couldn't run our competitions without our sponsors and supporters. We're especially grateful to them all this year for their enthusiasm and help in reformatting the competitions to conclude in a [remote format](#).

National Rocketry Championships [\(link\)](#)

23 teams initially, 7 in the final phase

Winners: Cranfield University (1st place), University of Exeter (2nd place), Loughborough University (3rd place)

Satellite Design Competition [\(link\)](#)

9 teams initially, 3 in the final phase

Winners: University of Glasgow (overall winner), Cranfield University (best presentation)

Sponsors and supporters: Open Cosmos, SSPI UK

Olympus Rover Trials [\(link\)](#)

12 teams initially, 5 in the final phase

Winners: University of Southampton (overall winner), University of Bath (best CDR), Cranfield University (best prototype demonstration)

Sponsors and supporters: Thales Alenia Space, GMV, RAL Space, Fairspace, Open Cosmos, and Oxford Space System

UKSEDS OLYMPUS ROVER TRIALS 2019-20

Summary

- Mission Duration**
57 Sols
- Traverse CONOPS**
Rapid & safe
- Dust Storms**
27 Sol survival
- Power**
4.3hrs drive
- Terrain Mapping**
Stereo Camera VSLAM
- Ionising Radiation Dose**
6678 µJ over planned mission

- Autonomy**
Navigation & sample retrieval
- Max data transfer**
33.5 kbps
- Dust**
EDS electrodes
- Thermal Control**
133 – 303 K
- Sample Protection**
Pressure sensors
- Mission Requirements**
Fully satisfied

NEW EVENTS, COMPETITIONS, AND PARTNERSHIPS

National Student Space Conference, 6th-7th March 2021

We're planning an **action packed interactive [online conference](#)** that will again be the **premier space event for students** to learn about the sector and make connections, and for **organisations to get themselves known** among the most enthusiastic of the up and coming talent. **Entry level sponsorship price of £150 with a tailored package for every sponsor, look out for the full details coming out soon!** Email us at conference@ukseds.org if you've never sponsored before and would like more details about our event.

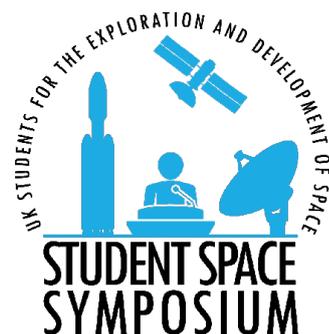
New partnerships made at NSSC 2020 [\(link\)](#)

At NSSC in March we were excited to partner for the first time with the following organisations:

- Spacebit
- Synoptix
- Bright Ascension
- Space Forge
- D-Orbit
- First Steps Legal

Student Space Symposium, 10th October 2020 [\(link\)](#)

This new event offers our members the chance to write and present papers on any space-themed topic. We received a **staggering 68 abstracts**, of which we selected 15 to be [presented at the virtual symposium](#) and published in our Symposium Proceedings. The top five will also be peer reviewed for publication in a special UKSEDS edition of the Journal of the British Interplanetary Society (JBIS). Nearly 450 people watched live on the day, with over 200 more having viewed it since. We're pleased to have partnered with the **BIS, AstroAgency, Blue Abyss, and Momentus** for this event.



A Question of Space

In this new competition, university and graduate teams will go head-to-head to answer space related questions in a quiz show format. This will be filmed, edited, and published online, serving as an opportunity for participants to test their extra-curricular knowledge and help inspire and educate the general public about the diversity of knowledge related to the space sector. We would greatly appreciate it if you would help us out by submitting questions [here](#), and if you know of a spacious area, near or in London, that would be willing to host this (COVID permitting of course), do get in touch.



The Space Careers Show

To celebrate **5 years since the start of SpaceCareers.uk**, we wanted to organise a **special Careers Launch Birthday Party** with the aim of inspiring the next generation of space explorers. We have thus organised a number of talks, activities, and discussions for all secondary school students to learn how to apply what they are currently learning and how the space industry may not be as far out of reach as it seems when they look up at the night-sky. The event will feature guest speakers such as **Brad Gibson**, a mission design competition and also a rocket demonstration by one of our volunteers, along with a few more surprises. Click [here](#) to sign up!

Preparing For Launch Podcast

Kicking off with **Dallas Campbell** in April, we're thrilled to have had a wonderful variety of guests providing entertainment, education, advice, and insight to our audience, including the first British astronaut **Helen Sharman**, and business analyst for Astroscale, **Harriet Brettle**. Now 10 episodes in, we've achieved an average of 120 listens per episode, and are looking forward to series 2 starting in the new year. Listen [here!](#)

