



UZH Space Hub Newsletter



Dear UZH Space Hub Community

We hope you had a nice Christmas and started with fresh energy into the new year! In this newsletter, we would like to welcome the new year with announcing a program highlight: we will support the *Space Café*, an event series funded by the Graduate Research Campus, which will bring together academia and industry at UZH. Finally, together with other interesting news, you will learn more about space motions sickness from Giovanni Bertolini in our monthly section *Meet a Space Scientist*.

Have a nice read,

UZH Space Hub Team

News

UZH Space Hub Annual Assembly

On January 7, we had the pleasure to meet the UZH Space Hub members at our second Annual Assembly. We are happy that the majority of our members could attend, and shared their needs, expectations and feedback concerning the Space Hub with us. It was also a great occasion for our members to get to know each other and watch out for collaborations. Thanks to everyone for participating.

Space Café

We are proud to announce that our UZH Space Hub staff member, Valentina Tamburello, together with Bastian Buman, Marco Cilibrasi and Irina Kempf, all associated with the UZH Space Hub, won a GRC grant with their events series *Space Café*: this interdisciplinary project will allow young researchers to informally discuss with experts from academia and industry about important topics in the space sector. The series will consist of seminars and round tables ranging from space medicine to risk assessment through Earth Observation, from experiments on parabolic flights to space-related start-ups funded by UZH alumni. The UZH Space Hub is happy to support this initiative, well done!

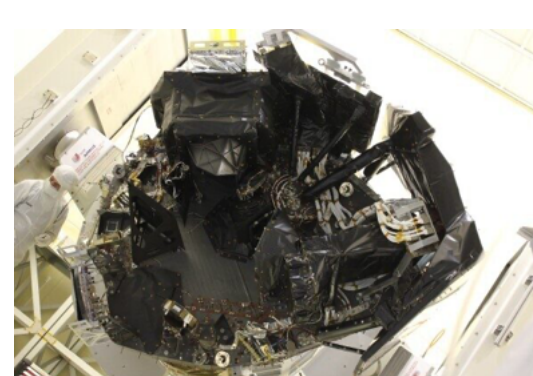
Find the program of the first event in the section *Events* here below.



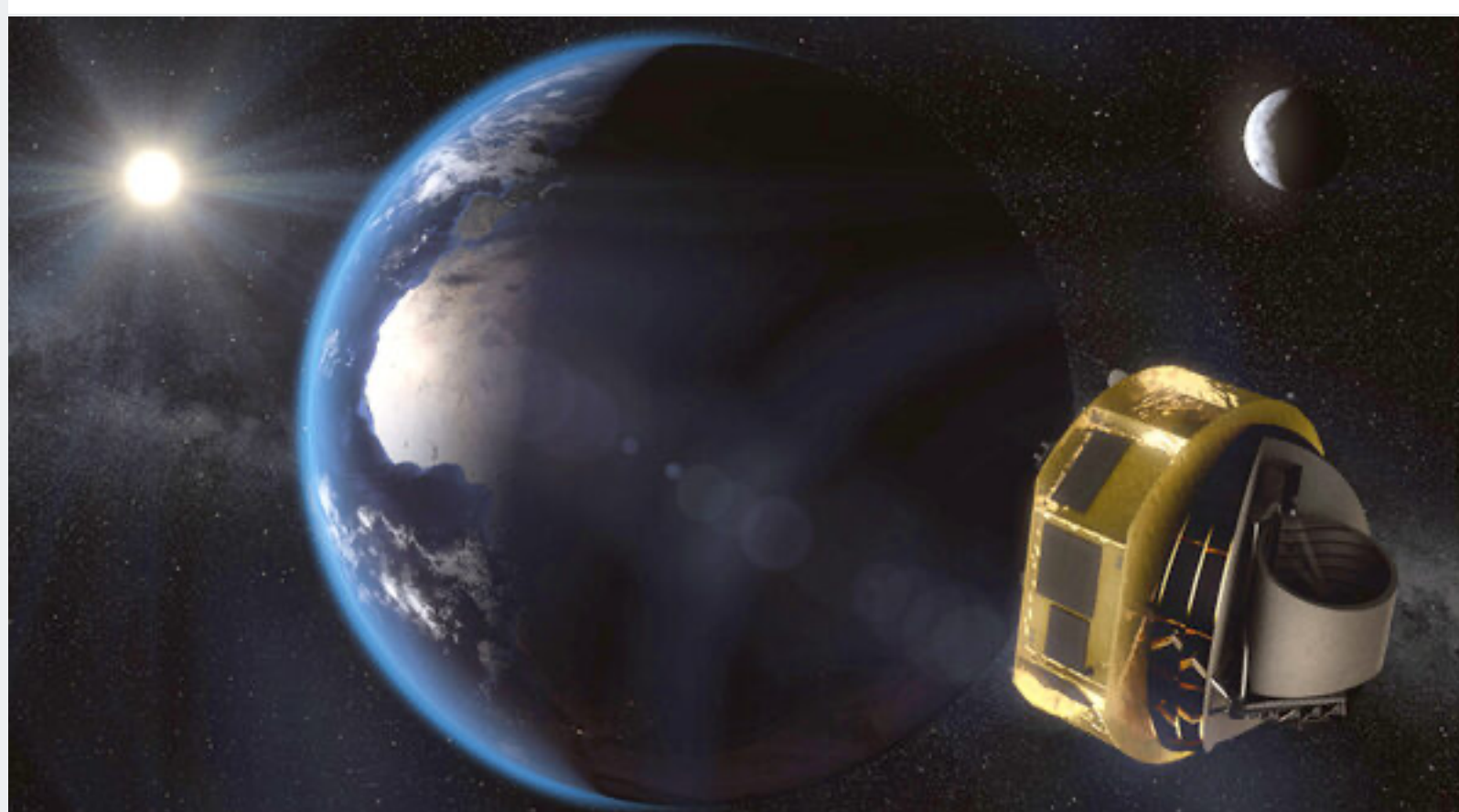
[Read more](#)

Updates on the Euclid Spacecraft

Good news for our astrophysicists: Euclid, ESA's mission scheduled for launch in 2022 to study dark energy and dark matter, took a step forward. In fact, the visible imager (VIS) and the near infrared spectrometer and photometer (NISF) of Euclid have recently passed the qualification and acceptance review and are now fully integrated into the spacecraft's payload module. Image credits: Airbus Defence and Space - Toulouse



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Ariel mission: from blueprint to reality

What are exoplanets made of? How did they form? These are just a few questions ESA's exoplanet mission Ariel, scheduled for launch in 2029, will try to answer. The mission has recently moved from study to implementation phase, being the first mission dedicated to measuring the chemical composition and thermal structures of exoplanets, linking them to the host star's environment. Congratulations to our UZH Space Hub member, Ravit Helled, who is co-leading one of the Ariel working groups! Image credits: ESA

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Star formation in nearby galaxies

Do you know how stars form in galaxies? Our UZH Space Hub member, professor Robert Feldmann, explored the star formation activity with a new statistical method based on Bayesian modelling. The star-formation activity of typical, nearby galaxies is found to scale proportionally with the amount of gas present in these galaxies. This points to the net gas supply from cosmic distances as the main driver of galactic star formation. Image credits: R. Feldmann

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Events

Radiation Protection for Astronauts @ Space Café

Have you ever wondered what type of health risks astronauts are exposed to on space missions? Astronauts are constantly exposed to ionizing radiation, which can lead to a significant increase in cancer risk. How could we take care of their health in space missions to the Moon or Mars? As the feasibility of long term missions increases, more research about radiation protection is being undertaken by many space agencies. In this talk, you will learn about different risk assessment models using cutting edge methods and data from Japanese A-bomb survivors.

This first event will take place online via Zoom, registration is free but mandatory, so please visit our webpage.



[Read more](#)

Sustainable Space Logistics Symposium

The EPFL Space Center (eSpace) invites you to the Sustainable Space Logistics Symposium on February 16-18, 2021. This will be a great opportunity to talk about space logistics, new services and data, and sustainability challenges, such as orbital debris. More details and registration in the link below.



[Read more](#)

Opportunities

ESA Academy Training Sessions

The ESA Education Office offers two new courses, open for University students application: [Introduction to Space Law Training](#), a 5-day online training course about space regulations delivered by ESA and external experts, and [Earth Observation Satellite System Design Training](#), consisting of ten online afternoon sessions about the entire development of an Earth Observation satellite, from the definition of the initial requirements to the final in-orbit verifications. Deadlines to apply are January 22 and February 8, 2021, respectively.



[Read more](#)

Meet a Space Scientist

This month we have interviewed Giovanni Bertolini, group leader of the Swiss Space Travel and Air Sickness (SSTARS) group at the Department of Neurology, University of Zurich. His research focuses on the mechanism of habituation and learning of self-motion perception in novel motion environments.

[Read more](#)

