

National Aeronautics and
Space Administration



EXPLORE SCIENCE

Headquarters Viewpoint

STUC | Nov 12, 2019

Michael Garcia, HST Program Scientist

NASA HQ, Astrophysics Division
Science Mission Directorate



Training the next Generation of NASA PIs

Via Astrophysics Sub-orbital program:
Sounding Rockets, CubeSats, Balloons



Proposal Evaluation: Additional Factors for SubOrbital Proposals

Suborbital includes sounding rockets, balloons, cubesats and ISS attached payloads.

For suborbital proposals, specific additional factors to be considered include:

- the proposal's scientific merit (see previous page)
- the degree to which the proposed work advances the technology readiness level (TRL) of a detector or supporting technology,
- **the degree to which the proposed work advances the readiness of junior researchers (postdocs or graduate students) to assume leadership roles on future NASA space flight projects.**

Training in the Colorado Suborbital Program

Early Career

Senior Faculty & Mission PI:

Prof. James Green
PI of HST/COS
PI of 10+ rockets



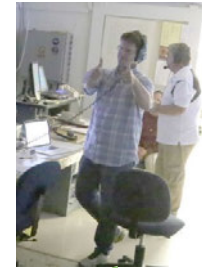
Faculty:

Asst. Prof Kevin France
PI of CHES & SISTINE Rockets
PI of CUTE Cubesat



Research Scientist (PI-training):

Research Prof. Brian Fleming
PI of SPRITE cubesat,
INFUSE APD Rocket



Dr. Ambily Suresh,
CUTE Cubesat



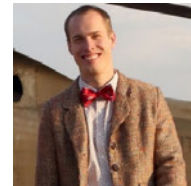
Ph.D. Student Training:



Dr. Chris Moore – Harvard/CfA,
Cubesats & rockets in HPD



Dr. Keri Hoadley – Caltech,
FIREBALL Balloon



Dr. Nick Kruczek – Colorado,
SISTINE Rocket, Grating SAT



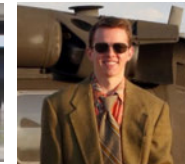
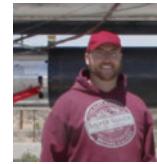
Arika Egan,
CUTE Cubesat

Training in the CU Suborbital Program

Pre-tenure faculty/
early(-ish) career:



Junior Engineers: Ted Schulz,
Stefan Ulrich, Nick DeCicco



Research Scientist (PI-training):

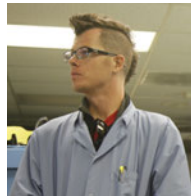
Dr. Ambily Suresh



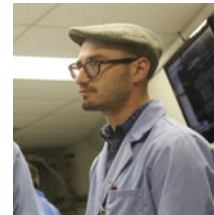
Research Prof. Brian Fleming
(PI of SPRITE cubesat)



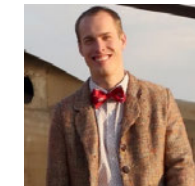
Ph.D. and M.S. Students:



Fernando
Cruz-Aguirre



Nico Nell (AE)



Dr. Nick Kruczek



PI - K



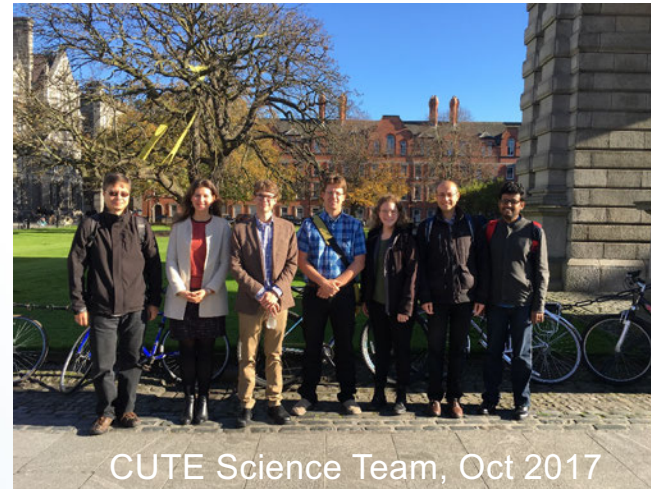
Dr. Allison
Youngblood

Student Training at the University of Colorado

Suborbital Research Programs:
end-to-end mission experience



Hands-on training
in space hardware



CUTE Science Team, Oct 2017



2019-09-28 15:29:42

CSBF FORT SUMNER
2019-09-28 09:29:47:04

PICTURE-C TEAM UMASS LOWELL

Name	Position	Institution
Supriya Chakrabarti	PI	UMASS Lowell
Christopher Mendillo	Project Scientist	UMASS Lowell
Tim Cook	Col	UMASS Lowell
Susanna Finn	Research Scientist	UMASS Lowell
Jason Martel	Mechanical Engineer	UMASS Lowell
Glenn Howe	Graduate Student	UMASS Lowell
Kuravi Hewawasam	Graduate Student	UMASS Lowell
Benjamin Mazin	Col	UCSB
Kerri Cahoy	Collaborator	MIT
Marc Kuchner	Collaborator	GSFC
Nikole Lewis	Collaborator	STSci
Dimitri Mawet	Collaborator	CalTech
Eugene Serabyn	Collaborator	JPL
Mark Swain	Collaborator	JPL

FIREBALL-2

Science:

- 1st wide-field, multi-object UV imaging spectroscopy
- 1st emission constraints on $z=0.7$ LAE, CGM, CQM

Technology:

- 1st High Efficiency UV Photon-counting detector
- Low red-leak demonstration of EMCCD
- High-efficiency/low-scatter anamorphic UV grating
- Wide-field imaging UV spectrometer
- Precision 4-axis pointing system for balloon gondola

Training:

- FB-1/FB-2: 9 GRAs, of which 5 are women
- FB-2: 3 Post-doctoral scholars, all women

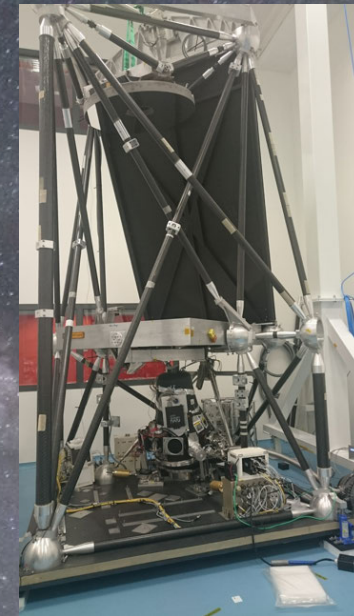


Image Credit:
Phillipe Balard



Science/Technology Pathfinder for LISA, LISA probes, LISA JIR

FIREBALL-2

Faint Intergalactic Redshifted Emission Balloon

Probing Galaxy and CGM Ly α Emission with Multi-Object Spectroscopy

Goals

- (1) Discover & map Circum-galactic medium to explore IGM-galaxy co-evolution
- (2) Pathfind UV integral field spectroscopy
- (3) Pathfind next generation high performance UV detectors

Caltech

COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY
IN THE CITY OF NEW YORK

NASA JPL
Jet Propulsion Laboratory
California Institute of Technology

LAM
LABORATOIRE D'ASTROPHYSIQUE
DE MARSEILLE

cnes

Caltech

Christopher Martin- PI

**Keri Hoadley –
PS/PM**

Zeren Lin

**Marty Crabill+
Hung Pham**

Nicole Lingner

Patrick Morrissey

Matt Matuszewski

Donal O'Sullivan

JPL

Shouleh Nikzad

Gillian Kyne

April Jewell

Tim Goodsall

Todd Jones

John Hennessey

Alex Carver

Michael Hoenk

Sam Chang+

LAM/CNES

Bruno Milliard

Vicent Picouet

Samuel Quiret

Didier Vibert

Didier Ferrand

Marc Jacquet

Frederi Mirc+

Robert Grange

Columbia

David Schiminovich

Nicole Melso

Lauren Corlies

Jose Zorilla

Julia Gross

Michele Limon

Sam Gordon

Hwei Ru Ong+

U. Arizona

Erika Hamden

Simran Agarwal

A. R. Khan

Keri
Hoadley



Erika Hamden
U. Arizona



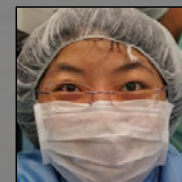
Gillian
Kyne (JPL)



Shouleh
Nikzad



Zeren Lin
(GRA)

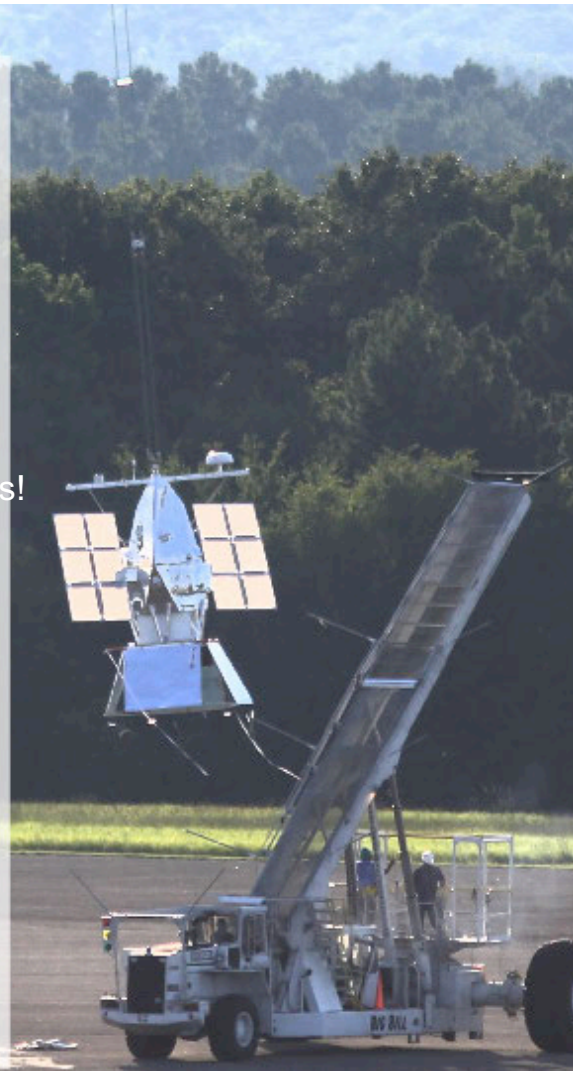


An Incredibly Talented Team:

Steve Benton
Aurelien Fraisse
Mathew Galloway
Ajay Gill
John Hartley
David Lagattuta
Jason Leung
Steven Li
Vy Luu
Susan Redmond
Javier Romualtez
Mohamed Shabaan

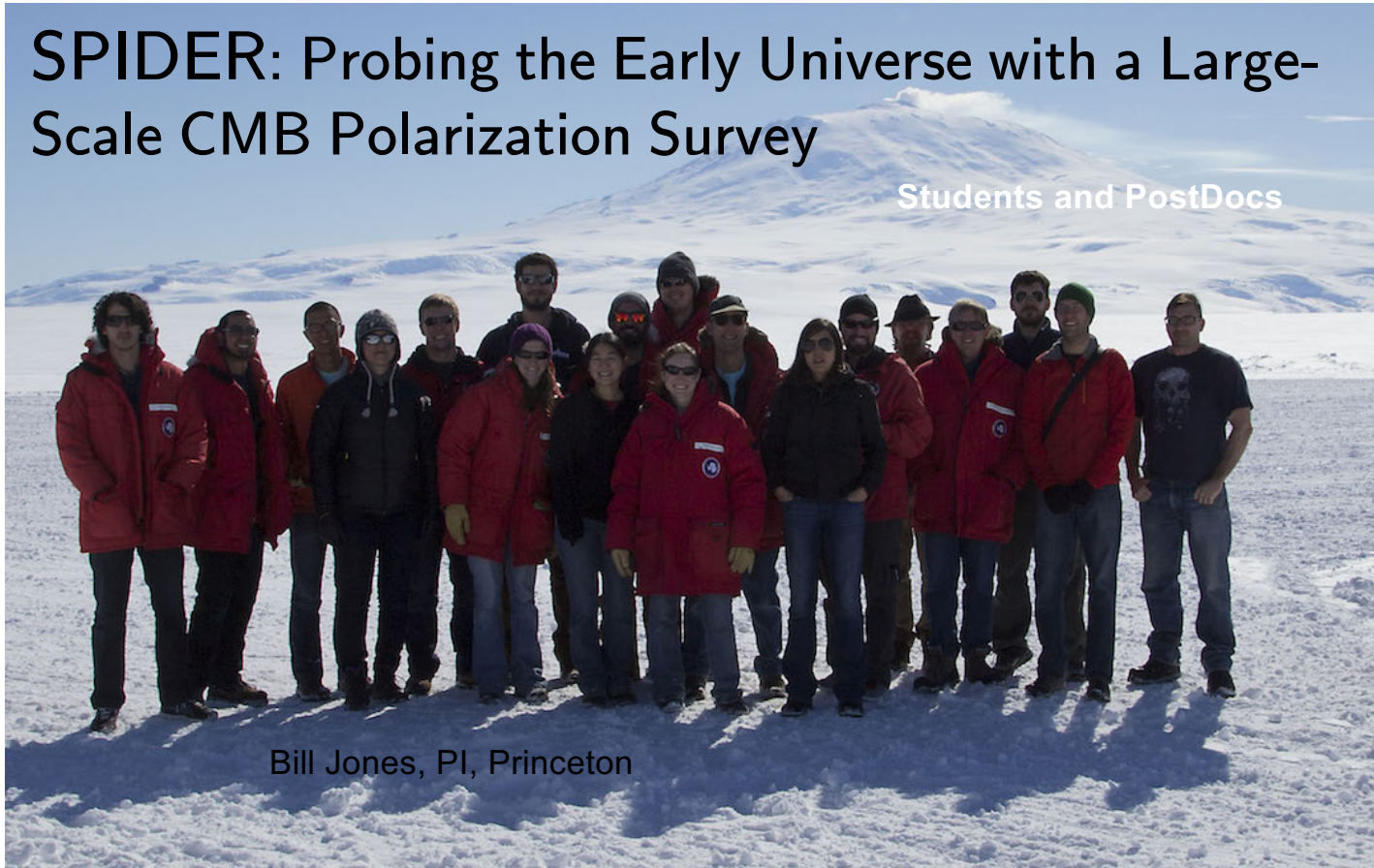
SUPERBIT
Bill Jones PI
Princeton

10 Grad Students,
2 PostDocs,
And an army of undergrads!



SPIDER: Probing the Early Universe with a Large-Scale CMB Polarization Survey

Students and PostDocs

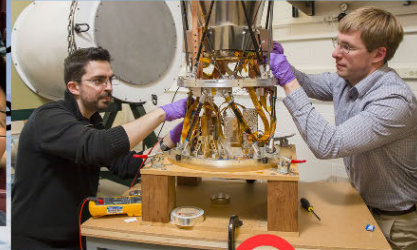


Bill Jones, PI, Princeton



SPIDER: Pro Scale CMB Po

 Postdoc/Researcher
 Industry
 Faculty



Suborbital Program Goals:

1. Science
2. Personnel Development
3. Space Technology



The SPRITE CubeSat Team



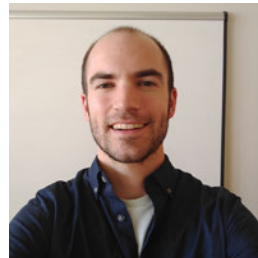
Brian Fleming
(PI)



Dmitry Vorobiev
(Co-I)



Caitlin Cash
(Grad Student)



Jack Williams
(EE)



Kevin France
(Co-I)



Stefan Ulrich
(ME)



Rick Kohnert
(LASP SE)



Insert Name Here
(2nd Grad Student)



Laura Murray
(Undergrad)

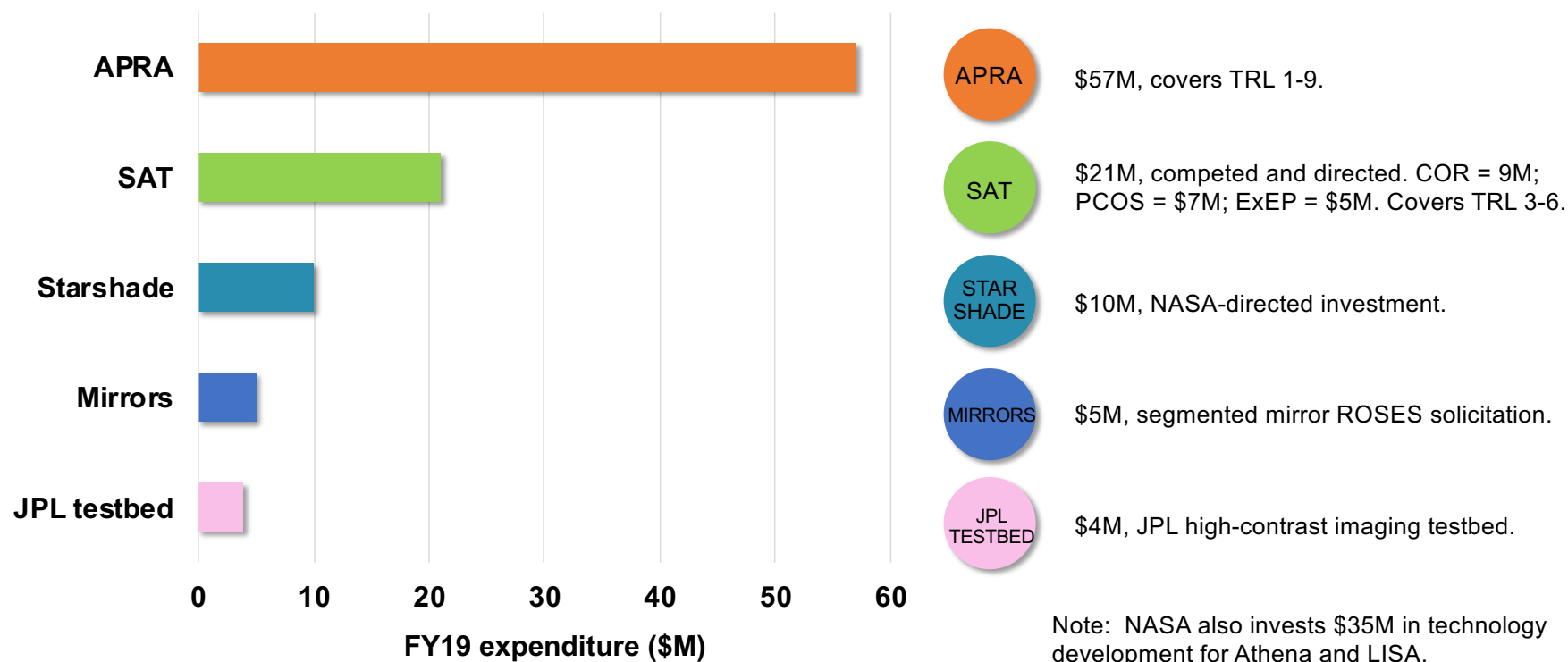
Small Projects Program

More coming –
especially
undergrads!
EE and ME are also
early career

External Co-Investigators:

Anne Jaskot (Williams College),
Stephan McCandliss (JHU),
Sanchayeeta Borthakur (ASU),
John O'Meara (W.M. Keck Obs.),
Jason Tumlinson (STScI),
Ravi Sankrit (STScI),
Michael Rutkowski (MSMU),
Manuel Quijada (GSFC),
John Hennessy (JPL),
Ossy Siegmund (SS)

Low-TLR Technology Development: \$97M in FY19



NASA's Astrophysics Balloon Program

Balloons provide low-cost, quick response, near space access for:

- Conducting cutting-edge research
- Developing technologies to enable future spacecraft science missions
- Advancing lighter-than-air platform technologies
- Enabling hands-on training of the next generation of scientists and engineers
- Now offering super-pressure balloons as a new capability



COSI launch from Wanaka, NZ on a Super-Pressure Balloon on May 17, 2016.

Most recently successfully launched all 8 large payloads during the Ft. Sumner, NM Campaign.

Super-Pressure Balloon Flights from Wanaka, NZ enable multi-day (night) astrophysics observation in the Southern Hemisphere.

8-12

**LAUNCHES
PER YEAR**

>3

**CAMPAIGNS
PER YEAR**

>300

**STUDENTS
PER YEAR**

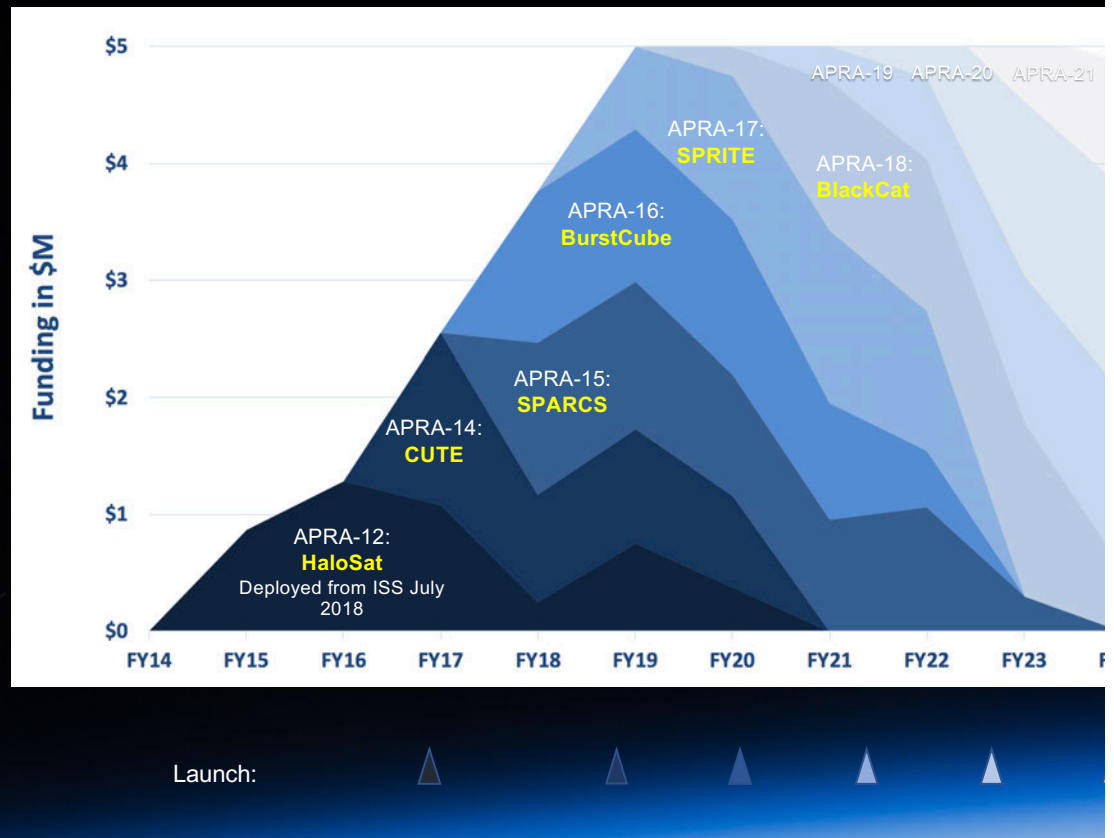
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**INSTITUTIONS
PER YEAR**

NASA's Astrophysics CubeSat Initiative

NASA's Astrophysics Division is investing approximately \$5M annually in a new CubeSat initiative.

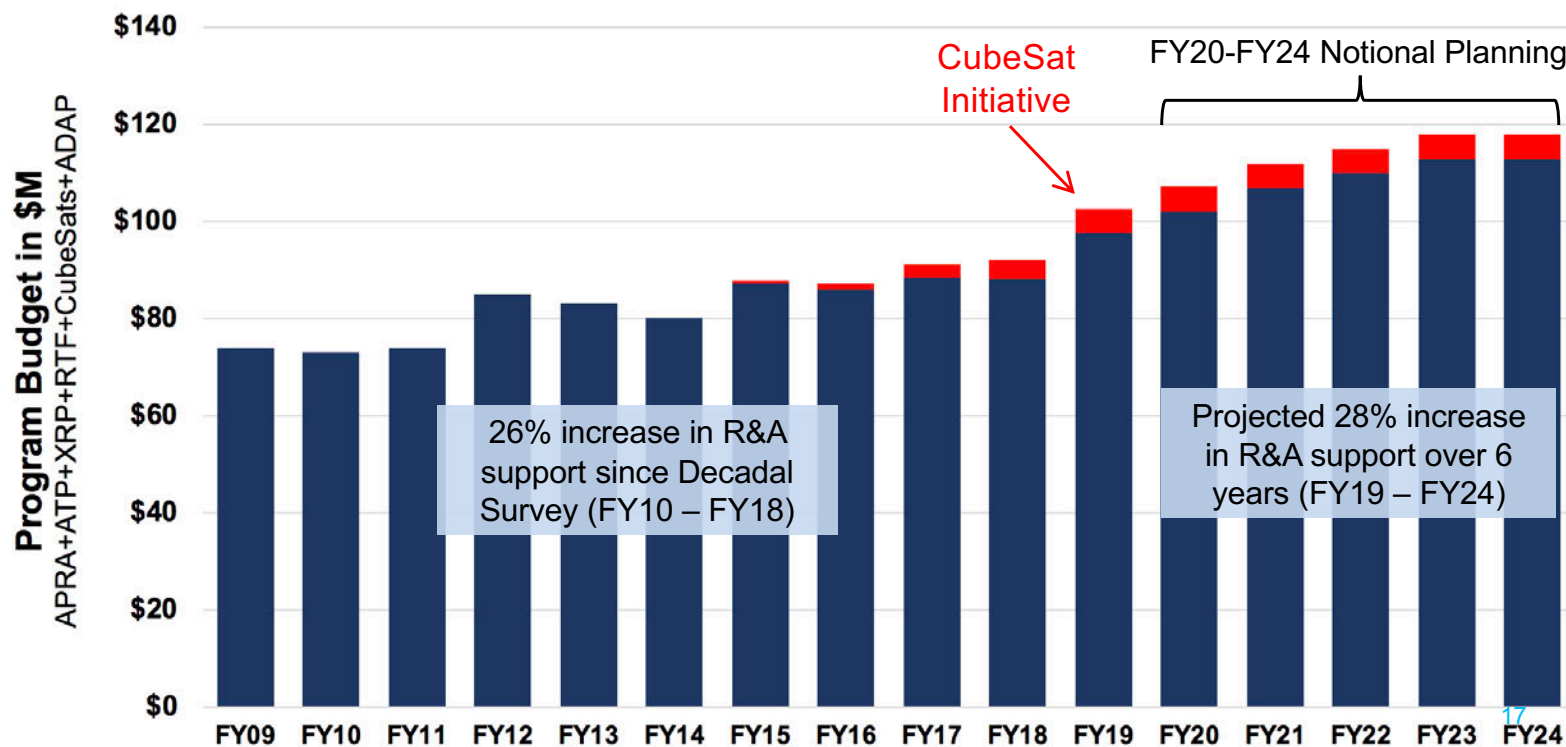
HaloSat, our first CubeSat, is in orbit and is producing excellent data.





Growth in R&A Funding (\$M)

Program	FY09	FY10	FY11	FY12	FY13	FY14	FY15	FY16	FY17	FY18	FY19	FY20	FY21	FY22	FY23	FY24
R&A	\$74	\$73	\$74	\$85	\$83	\$80	\$87	\$86	\$89	\$88	\$98	\$102	\$107	\$110	\$113	\$113
CubeSat							\$0.9	\$1.2	\$2.5	\$3.9	\$5	\$5	\$5	\$5	\$5	\$5
Total	\$74	\$73	\$74	\$85	\$83	\$80	\$88	\$87	\$91	\$92	\$103	\$107	\$112	\$115	\$118	\$118



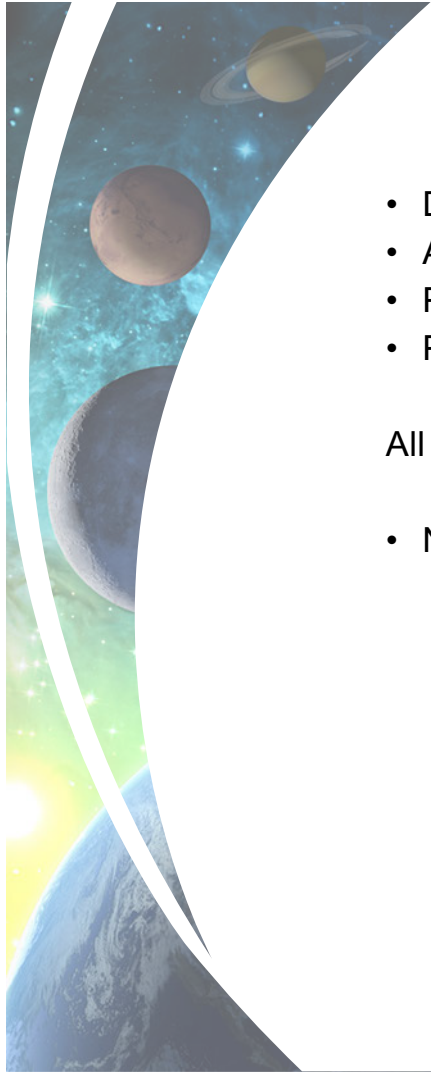
Building An Excellent Workforce

NASA achieves excellence by relying on diverse teams, both within and external to NASA, to most effectively perform NASA's work

NASA Science Mission Directorate

- Developed a PI resources webpage at <https://science.nasa.gov/researchers/new-pi-resources>
- Introduced pre-reviews of mission peer review panels to ensure diversity
- Added a code of conduct requirement for SMD-funded conferences to ROSES 2019
- Included career development positions and associated evaluation criteria as part of AOs
- Implemented a Code of Conduct and implicit bias training for all ROSES peer reviews
- Adopting dual anonymous reviews for all GO programs, and piloting them for other R&A programs, following successful demonstration by STScI for Hubble GO program
- Presented a national symposium by SMD AA Thomas Zurbuchen on lessons learned regarding mission proposal success
- Announced a workshop for potential mission PIs, see <https://science.nasa.gov/researchers/pi-launchpad>
- Is developing award terms and conditions mandating reporting harassment, similar to NSF's
- Is presenting information sessions at major conferences, including the Honolulu AAS Meeting, to support people developing their first proposal
- Tasked the Astro2020 Decadal Survey to "Assess the state of the profession. Identify areas of concern and importance [regarding] the future vitality and capability of the astronomy and astrophysics work force. Where possible, provide specific, actionable and practical recommendations to the agencies"

NASA is looking forward to specific, actionable, and practical recommendations



Astrophysics Division Hiring

- Deputy Division Director
- Associate Division Director for Flight Projects
- Program Scientist(s)
- Program Executive(s)

All advertisements have closed

- NASA will be calling for IPA applications in the Fall