



3RD SPACE EXPLORATION CONFERENCE & EXHIBIT

Coalition for Space Exploration Space Gen Advisory Board Member

**Presenter: Alexander Stimpson
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Credentials



- **Ph.D. Candidate at University of Florida**
- **Coalition for Space Exploration Advisory Board Member**
- **Guide for student lab tours**



Personal Experiences



- **Interest in space program**
 - **Latent interest growing up**

 - **High School – decision to pursue career**
 - ✓ **Challenge of manned missions (life sciences)**
 - ✓ **Technology of the future**

 - **College – involvement**
 - ✓ **Research**
 - ✓ **4frontiers**
 - ✓ **The Coalition for Space Exploration**



Personal Experiences



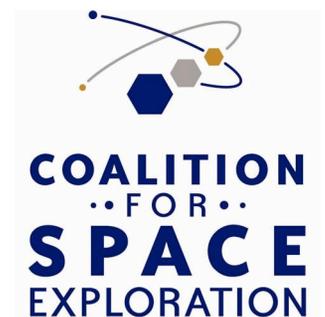
- **Tours – middle school through graduate school**
 - **Spark of interest still in Gen Y**
 - ✓ **Judy Joseph – Intro to Engineering tour**
 - ✓ **Interest from fellow graduate students**
 - ✓ **Lots of questions about the technology/goals – even from the “cool” ones**
 - **Most had no idea this type of research was going on!**
 - **INFORM!**



Personal Experiences



- **Trouble in Hunt for Opportunities**
 - **Resistance from older generations**
 - ✓ “It won’t happen in our lifetime”
 - ✓ “You don’t have enough experience to help”
 - **Lack of funding**
 - ✓ **Labs in SLSL**
 - ✓ **Need budget increase**
 - **Training programs**
 - **Grants and fellowships**



Coalition for Space Exploration Efforts



- o **General efforts**
 - **Use of new media**
 - ✓ YouTube
 - ✓ MySpace
 - ✓ New Website Design
 - Yuri's Night
 - X Games 2007 involvement with NASA

- o **Direct/Individual efforts**
 - Provide Opportunities
 - NASA Means Business
 - Gen Y Advisory Board members
 - INVOLVE!



Kelly Billon

NMB Winner 2007



Working Towards a Solution



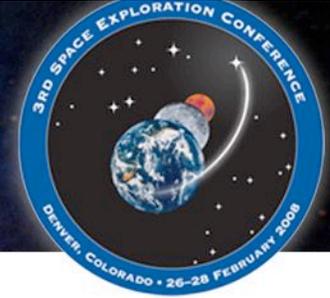
- **Inform** – let students know that there are research projects and experiments going on, and that there is a future in it

- **Involve** – show them how they can help

- **ANYONE** can help
 - Internships, grants, training programs
 - School visits, presentations, lab tours



Conclusion



- o Gen Y is not lost, but need to take action
- o Can be a little effort, or a lot, but needs to be done now – no time to wait
- o Future missions will rely on expertise and training of my generation that must be done now to be ready

