About USRA

Formed in 1969, under the auspices of the National Academies of Science, Universities Space Research Association is an independent nonprofit organization that offers an avenue for government and industry to engage the expertise of the academic community with USRA’s technical leadership, innovative R&D, operational excellence, management of premier facilities, and education programs to advance space and aeronautics-related sciences and exploration.

Approach & Organization

Key to USRA’s capabilities is the role of universities. In 2019, USRA scientists were involved in 857 research collaborations at 292 organizations including over 400 universities. USRA research locations employ more than 400 scientific, technical, and professional staff. More than 60% of USRA employees have advanced technical degrees, and 43% hold Ph.D.s.

Our Mission

• Advance the space- and aeronautics-related sciences and exploration through innovative research, technology, and education program

• Promote space and aeronautics policy

• Develop and operate premier facilities and programs by involving universities, governments, and the private sector for the benefit of humanity

Our Values

• Passion—for science, technology, and education

• Partnerships—with universities, governments, and the private sector

• Professionalism—through excellence, accountability, and respect for others