

INAUGURAL INTERDISCIPLINARY ENGINEERING COLLOQUIUM ■
PURDUE UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF ENGINEERING EDUCATION

IT TAKES A TEAM: REFLECTIONS AT THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF HUMAN SPACEFLIGHT

NOVEMBER 10, 2011 | 3:30-4:30 p.m. | ARMSTRONG HALL ATRIUM

SPEAKERS



Gary Horlacher, NASA Flight Director. A 1989 Purdue graduate in Interdisciplinary Engineering (major: systems engineering), Horlacher served as flight director for *Endeavour's* final mission (May 16-June 1, 2011) and has supported 82 space shuttle missions from Mission Control during his career. He is currently in training to become a Space Station Flight Director as well as supporting the Commercial Crew Program for NASA.



Michael Smith, Associate Professor, Purdue Department of History. Smith teaches courses in "History of the Space Race," "History of Aviation," and "History of Russia." He is currently finishing a book manuscript, "Rocket Science and the Russian Revolution."

MODERATOR

David Radcliffe, Kamyar Haghighi Head, School of Engineering Education, Purdue University

A RECEPTION IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWS THE PRESENTATION.

PURDUE GRADUATES, RESEARCHERS, AND SCHOLARS have contributed in many different ways to making human space travel possible and to helping us understand the broader social, political and historical significance of these technological accomplishments. Spaceflight is a high-risk endeavor involving the flawless integration of an extremely complex set of technological and human systems—a system of systems. It also depends upon the sustained political will of a nation—the desire of the people—to provide the resources necessary to take these risks and to seek the potential rewards.

To celebrate the 50th anniversary of human spaceflight, this joint event between the Colleges of Engineering and Liberal Arts at Purdue places a spotlight on the geopolitical and societal context and technological challenges of the Space Race between the U.S. and the Soviet Union in the early 1960s, explores the much more complex nature of the human and technological systems in the space shuttle era, and asks what lessons we can learn from this for the future of human exploration of space.



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