



ANNOUNCEMENT

CALL FOR STUDENT DESIGN TEAMS NASA/TSGC DESIGN CHALLENGE PROGRAM

FALL 2009

NASA PROJECTS & MENTORS - PROJECT FUNDING - CONFERENCE PRESENTATION - SCHOLARSHIPS

\$1,250 IN PROJECT FUNDING AVAILABLE PER TEAM

\$2,000 IN SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS

Sponsored by NASA and administered by the Texas Space Grant Consortium, the **TSGC DESIGN CHALLENGE** is a unique academic experience offering undergraduate students an opportunity to propose and design a solution to a topic of importance to NASA and its mission.



CHALLENGE topics are submitted by researchers currently at work on projects of interest to NASA or its contractor community. Student teams work on the topic of their choice over the course of one or two semesters. Student team members have the opportunity to: work with a NASA mentor; engage in scientific research and hands-on engineering design; explore NASA-affiliated career opportunities; gain experience in meeting presentation, outreach activities and website design. Funding is provided to offset the cost of design project expenses and project-related travel. Opportunities to earn scholarships exist.

TSGC will accept **FALL 2009** Design Briefs from interested teams during the period **August 24th – September 7th**. The on-line Design Brief will introduce the team and identify the design project selected from the on-line topics list. Team selection is not competitive, but is based upon program capacity, project availability and timely submission of the Design Brief.



Schedule and Overview: Teams complete a series of design milestones, called Levels and Option Areas, to earn project and scholarship funds. One or two semester projects available.



Teams are composed of undergraduate students enrolled in a required course or approved for independent study. All participation must be for credit and all teams must work alongside a faculty advisor. A mentor, from a NASA-affiliated research unit, will be provided for each team. Minimum team size is three members; maximum size is six-members.



Topics are offered from a broad range of NASA interest areas, research groups and contractors. Each team is required to select one primary and one alternate choice from the list of available design topics posted on the **TSGC DESIGN CHALLENGE** website [www.tsgc.utexas.edu/challenge]. Variations on the topics may be submitted for approval.



Awards and Recognitions: Incentives include: project and travel funding, team scholarships, educational materials, certificate of participation, program t-shirt and patch. The design experience culminates with the **TSGC DESIGN CHALLENGE SHOWCASE** where teams meet in Houston to present their projects to members of the academic and professional community.



Participation Details: **FALL 2009** topic descriptions, program information, guidelines and forms may be viewed and downloaded from the **TSGC DESIGN CHALLENGE** website: <http://www.tsgc.utexas.edu/challenge>. Contact the **DESIGN CHALLENGE** Program Administrator, Debbie Mullins [mullins@tsgc.utexas.edu/512-471-7390] for additional information.

JUST
IT'S NOT ROCKET SCIENCE