

**IEEE SMC-IT 2021**  
**8th IEEE International Conference on Space Mission Challenges for Information Technology**

Virtual Conference: July 26-30, 2021

**CALL FOR PARTICIPATION**

EARLY BIRD REDUCED RATE REGISTRATION NOW OPEN UNTIL JULY 5th!

(Regular registration begins on July 6th and continues through to the conference.)

Sponsored by: IEEE Computer Society and the Technical Committee on Software Engineering (TCSE)

General Information: <http://smc-it.org>

Email Inquiries: [smc-it-chairs@baylor.edu](mailto:smc-it-chairs@baylor.edu)

Registration: <http://smc-it.org/registration>

Agenda: <https://smcit.ecs.baylor.edu/smcit-agenda.html>

Every two years, the International Conference on Space Mission Challenges for Information Technology (SMC-IT) gathers system designers, engineers, scientists, practitioners, and space explorers with the objective of advancing information technology for space missions. The forum will provide an excellent opportunity for fostering technical interchange on all hardware and software aspects of IT applications in space missions.

The conference will focus on current information systems practice and challenges as well as emerging information technologies with applicability for future space missions. Information systems in all aspects of the space mission will be explored, including flight systems, ground systems, science data processing, engineering and development tools, operations, and telecommunications. The entire information systems lifecycle of the mission development will also be covered, such as conceptual design, engineering tools development, integration and test, operations, science analysis, and quality control.

**Our list of confirmed Keynote Speakers include:**

- Brig. Gen. D. Jason Cothorn, Vice Commander, Space and Missile Systems Center, Los Angeles Air Force Base
- Lt. Gen. Larry D. James (USAF, Ret.), Deputy Director, NASA / JPL
- Juliane J. Gallina, Chief Information Officer, Central Intelligence Agency (CIA)
- Shri M Sankaran, Distinguished Scientist, Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO)
- Dr. Eugene L. Tu, Director, NASA Ames Research Center
- Kevin D. Bell, Vice President, Space Program Operations, The Aerospace Corporation
- Rob Manning, Chief Engineer, NASA / JPL
- Dr. Anik De Groof, Instrument Operations Scientist, European Space Agency (ESA)
- Dr. Al Cangahuala, Mission System Manager, Europa Clipper Mission, NASA / JPL.
- Tim Canham, Software and Operations Lead for the Mars Helicopter, NASA / JPL
- Col. Janet Grondin (USAF, Ret.), Vice President of Defense Programs, Stellar Solutions
- Kalind Carpenter, Robotics Engineer, Robotic Vehicles and Manipulators Group, NASA / JPL
- Magdy Bareh, Principal Engineer, Flight Systems Engineering, NASA / JPL

**A list of the mini-workshops within SMC-IT includes:**

- The Space-Terrestrial Internetworking (STINT)

- Digital Twins
- Open Source for Space
- Space Mission Challenges for Digital Engineering Environments/Ecosystems (MBSE)
- Trusted Artificial Intelligence (TUTORIAL)
- Machine Learning for Spacecraft Health
- Accelerating the Use of Autonomy on Robotic Space Missions
- 3rd Augmented, Virtual, and Mixed Realities Workshop
- Student Mars CubeSat Mini-Workshop
- Engineering of Autonomic and Autonomous Systems (EASe)

#### **Conference Highlights:**

- We will have a keynote talk by Brig. Gen. D. Jason Cothorn, Vice Commander, Space and Missile Systems Center (SMC) of the United States Space Force. The Space and Missile Systems Center is a center of technical excellence, and is involved in the development of highly advanced space systems. Prior to this role, Brig. Gen. Cothorn was the Assistant Program Director for development at the F-35 Lighting II Joint Program Office.
- This year SMC-IT will have special talks on the Mars 2020 Helicopter, Ingenuity, and future Mars missions, Commercial Space, the new concept of Digital Twins, the use of Open Source in Space, and robotic snakes for exploring deep crevasses and caves on icy worlds.

#### **CORPORATE SUPPORT:**

Interested in exhibiting or providing sponsorship through a corporation grant? Corporate donors get group registrations, a daily breakout room for targeted talks, and other promotional opportunities. Interested companies should contact us at [smc-it-chairs@baylor.edu](mailto:smc-it-chairs@baylor.edu)

#### **CALL FOR STUDENT VOLUNTEERS:**

If you are a full-time student and have an interest in volunteering to help with conference operations, please drop us an email at [smc-it-chairs@baylor.edu](mailto:smc-it-chairs@baylor.edu)

*We look forward to seeing you online in July 2021!*

#### **CONFERENCE CHAIRS:**

General Chair: Yogita Shah ([yogita.shah@jpl.nasa.gov](mailto:yogita.shah@jpl.nasa.gov))  
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 Finance Chair: James Oyama ([James.Y.Oyama@jpl.nasa.gov](mailto:James.Y.Oyama@jpl.nasa.gov))

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