

**MOONRIDERS: NASA AND HAWAII'S LUNAR SURFACE FLIGHT EXPERIMENT FOR LATE 2017 IN ISRU DUST REMOVAL TECHNOLOGIES.** R. Kelso<sup>1</sup>, <sup>1</sup>Pacific International Space Center for Exploration Systems [PSCES] (99 Aupini St, Ste 212-213. Hilo, HI 96720, rkelso54@gmail.com).

**Executive Overview:** To provide a briefing on the initiation and progress of a joint, innovative public-private partnership (PPP) project between Hawaii, academia and NASA with the goal being to: develop, launch, fly and land on the moon a Hawaii High School student-built lunar surface experiment, in concert with technology from the NASA Kennedy Space Center as a hosted payload on one of the upcoming GLXP launch attempts.

**Synopsis:** Recently, a unique flight technology project was formed for the design, development, testing and flight operation of a lunar surface flight experiment jointly developed between Hawaii's PISCES, NASA-KSC, and two Hawaii High Schools. While the Google Lunar X-PRIZE is "*de-signed to inspire pioneers to do robotic space transport on a budget*", the **Moon-RIDERS** project seeks to inspire this generation of Hawaii high school students in a first-ever student-participation involving a lunar surface experiment project with emphasis on STEM. In a similar fashion, this project allows for critical flight testing/validation of spacecraft systems technology on the surface of the moon.

Over the last 4-5 years, NASA-KSC has been actively working to advance dust-removal technologies which could be critical in future spacecraft systems operating on planetary surfaces...referred to as the Electrodynamical Dust Shield (EDS). As has been seen with lunar surface operations during Apollo and more recently with the experiences with dust on lander/rover systems on Mars, dust is a major problem affecting: mechanisms, ability to negatively impact thermal characteristics of space suit materials, lowering efficiencies of radiators and solar arrays, and more. PISCES, given its legislative direction in advancing planetary surface systems, saw this collaboration as an opportunity to uniquely involve Hawaii high school students in a joint engineering project with NASA KSC...then flying as a hosted-payload/secondary on an upcoming GLXP mission.

Since the spring of 2014, NASA-KSC and PISCES have initiated a "**program-start**" on this project and have added two participating Hawaii high schools within the engineering project to flight test EDS on the lunar surface. Project costs are being handled individually within each organization/school...funding their own activities in the strategic partnership.

This briefing will provide an overview of the dust-issue on the moon/Mars, overview the EDS technology, the unique partnership, progress update and testing leading to this flight opportunity testing critical surface systems technology on the surface of the moon.