



I. NSS Vision

The Vision of NSS is people living and working in thriving communities beyond the Earth, and the use of the vast resources of space for the dramatic betterment of humanity.

II. NSS Mission

The Mission of NSS is to promote social, economic, technological, and political change in order to expand civilization beyond Earth, to settle space and to use the resulting resources to build a hopeful and prosperous future for humanity.

Accordingly, we support steps toward this goal, including human spaceflight, commercial space development, space exploration, space applications, space resource utilization, robotic precursors, defense against asteroids, relevant science, and space settlement oriented education.

III. NSS Rationale

A. Survival — of Human Species and Earth’s Biosphere

It is the nature of every form of life, whether animal or plant, to strive to survive.

1. Survival of the Human Species

The human species is encountering increased natural, man-made, and extraterrestrial threats, including disease, resource depletion, pollution, urban violence, terrorism, nuclear war, asteroids, and comets.

2. Survival of Earth’s Biosphere

Many forms of animal and plant life on Earth are suffering increased loss of population and quality habitat because of the growing presence of humans on planet Earth, via expansion, pollution, deforestation, fishing, farming, mining, and promotion of certain species of animals and plants.

Space technology provides both means to monitor threats to life on Earth and ways to help curtail them. Space industrialization and settlement provide safety valves to relieve the pressures that cause Earth-bound threats. They also provide escape routes in case of catastrophic man-made or extraterrestrial threats. Humanity has inherited the stewardship of the planet Earth. It will therefore need the vast resources of outer space to reverse the damage it has caused to the Earth’s biosphere, and ultimately enhance all life on Earth.

B. Growth — Unlimited Room for Expansion

It is the nature of every form of life, whether animal or plant, to grow and multiply.

1. New Habitats for Life

The human species, as well as all other animal and plant life on Earth, need room to grow and multiply. Earth has a finite supply of land, air, and water, for which humans, animals, and plants must compete. Of all Earth species, only humans have or can acquire

and utilize the knowledge to create new habitats on other worlds or in space from the raw materials of moons and asteroids.

2. New Frontiers for Humanity

To provide the human species with a new “frontier” for exploration and adventure, and to thought and expression, culture and art, and modes of government. The opening of “the New World” to western civilization brought about an unprecedented 500-year period of growth and experimentation in science, technology, literature, music, art, recreation, and government (including the development and gradual acceptance of democracy). The presence of a frontier led to the development of the “open society” founded on the principles of individual rights and freedoms. Many of these rights and freedoms are being placed under increasingly stringent limitations as human population grows and humanity moves towards a “closed society”, where eventually everyone eats the same, speaks the same, and dresses the same. “Cultures that do not explore, die!”

C. Prosperity — Unlimited Resources

It is the nature of the human species to strive to improve the quality of its many lives and to provide a better future for its children.

1. Improved Standards of Living

To provide humanity with the resources it needs to improve the quality of life for all humans on the planet Earth. The majority of humanity lives at an economic level that is far below that of the Western democracies. Outer space holds virtually limitless amounts of energy and raw materials, which can be harvested for use both on Earth and in space. Quality of life can be improved directly by utilization of these resources and also indirectly by moving hazardous and polluting industries and/or their waste products off planet Earth.

NSS Statement of Philosophy

2. Economic Opportunity

To provide every human individual with the opportunity to improve the well being of himself or herself, and his or her family. Vast new resources must be developed if all persons are to be given economic opportunities for themselves and their children even marginally equal to what many would consider a minimally tolerable standard of living.

3. Technological Development

To provide remote locations for the development, testing, and “perfection” of promising, but potentially hazardous technologies, such as biological experimentation; nuclear, fusion, chemical and

antimatter power generation; and space propulsion. Such developmental facilities could be placed either in space or on other worlds far from both space settlements and unrelated facilities.

D. Curiosity — The Quest for Knowledge

It is the nature of the human species to learn more about its origins, its past, its fellow life forms, its environment, its limitations, and its possibilities for the future. Earth is but a tiny container of knowledge compared to the entire incredibly vast universe. “We are part of the universe, through our eyes, ears and minds, the universe may know itself.”

IV. NSS Principles

These are the guiding principles of the NSS by which we will conduct our Mission in pursuit of our Vision.

A. Human Rights

NSS shall promote the principle of fundamental rights of every human being.

B. Ethics

NSS shall observe, practice, and promote ethical conduct.

C. Pragmatism

Within the bounds of these Principles, NSS shall promote and support any and all methods and practices that support achievement of our Vision.

V. NSS Beliefs

While we cannot say that the following are absolutely essential for space settlement we believe and support the following:

A. Individual Rights

NSS believes that space development and settlement will occur most efficiently, and humanity’s prosperity will be best ensured, if every human being is given the freedom of thought and action.

B. Unrestricted Access to Space

NSS believes that space development and settlement will occur most efficiently, and humanity’s survival and growth will be best ensured, if every human being is allowed the opportunity to travel, live, and/or work in outer space.

C. Personal Property Rights

NSS believes that space development and settlement will occur most efficiently, and humanity’s survival and growth will be best ensured, if every human being is allowed the opportunity to own property in space and/or on other world

D. Free Market Economics

NSS believes that space development and settlement will occur most efficiently, and humanity’s prosperity will be best ensured, if the “free market” drivers of competition and profit used.

E. Government Funding of High Risk R&D

NSS believes that space development and settlement will occur most efficiently, and humanity’s prosperity will be best ensured, if national governments fund the research and development of space technologies deemed too “high risk” by their industries.

F. International Cooperation

NSS believes that space development and settlement will occur most efficiently, and humanity’s survival and prosperity will be best ensured, if nations cooperate on space research and development, and leave competition to individual companies.

G. Democratic Values

NSS believes that humanity’s growth and prosperity will be best ensured if the fundamentals of democracy are applied to and incorporated by space settlements.

H. Enhancement of Earth’s Ecology

NSS believes that one of the goals and benefits of space development and settlement is to restore and enhance the biosphere of the planet Earth.

I. Protection of New Environments

NSS believes that space development and settlement should be pursued in a manner that safeguards alien life forms, natural wonders, and historical monuments.