

## Space Is a Place — To Do Business

Anita Gale, WA A '73

National Space Society

CEO



**The Talk:** There was a time in the mid-1970s when people were excited by the idea of living in space, inspired by a NASA study conducted by Princeton physicist Gerard O'Neill. Whether the time wasn't right, or the economics were poorly conceived and expressed, or politics got in the way...the excitement faded. Worse, after people landed on the Moon six times between 1969 and 1972, we quit going there.

In this program, Anita will summarize how discussion of what we can do in space is changing, how the human economy can expand into space, and what that is likely to mean for betterment of life on Earth and opportunities for any industry to become a space industry.

**The Speaker:** Anita Gale is a retired Boeing engineer, with 40 years of experience as a Project Engineer and Systems Engineer on the Space Shuttle and Commercial Crew programs. Her responsibilities primarily involved cargo integration, process improvements, and working on proposal teams for new projects and space vehicles.

In 1984, Anita co-founded Space Settlement Design Competitions, which involve high school students world-wide in emulating the experience of working on engineering proposal teams, and are proven to inspire students to pursue STEM curricula and careers. The background information she prepares for each Competition includes "future history" of commercial activities in space, including economic justification for future habitation throughout the inner solar system into the 2090s.

Anita is currently the CEO of the National Space Society (NSS). She was a member of both predecessor organizations—the L5 Society and National Space Institute—before they merged to become NSS in the 1980s. Through the decades, she has been a tireless advocate for commercial development of space. She has authored technical papers and made presentations on future space infrastructure, and chairs tracks of sessions on space settlements for international conferences.

Anita has a BS and MS in Aeronautics and Astronautics from the University of Washington in Seattle. She served Tau Beta Pi as President of Washington Alpha.

**Registration link:**

<https://tbp-org.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZwoc-6sqT8vGtYQv-Bo2Dbkn77yBwtfc5Ts>