

## Highlights:

### I: FoS 1

– Nov 6, 2008

### II: ASX Symposium

– Jan 23, 2009

### III: Results of ASX

AGM + Bi-Elections

### IV: International

Space News

### V: Other Astro/

Space Events

Greetings Fellow Astronomy and Space Enthusiasts,

It is an exciting time for Astronomy and Space Exploration! The City of Toronto is considering making January 10, 2009 the official kickoff date for the International Year of Astronomy (IYA) in the GTA. There has been some exciting International space news, including those in China, India, and the private space sector. See section IV for more details.

In local space news, ASX has managed to secure private space explorer Anousheh Ansari as a featured speaker for our January Symposium. She will talk about her experiences training for her mission and on board the International Space Station. See section II for more details.

Our Welcome Party at the end of September was a great success. Over 90 people enjoyed film-maker Michael Lennick's documentary *The Highest Step in the World* and a star gazing event. Of course, all who attended the event got free pizza and pop.

For additional news and updates please see below.

Clear Skies,

ASX

## I. 6<sup>th</sup> Annual “Faces of Space” (FoS) Lecture 1 Stargazing 101 Workshop

**DATE & TIME:** Thursday, November 6, 2008,  
7:00 PM (Stargazing at 9:00 PM)

**LOCATION:** University of Toronto St George  
Campus, Meclennan Physical Laboratory,  
Room 102 (MP102)

[60 St. George Street, Toronto](http://60stgeorge.com)

Campus Map: <http://rrs.osm.utoronto.ca/map/>

**FREE ADMISSION** (students & public)

**FREE REFRESHMENTS** (please RSVP to [space.society@utoronto.ca](mailto:space.society@utoronto.ca)  
with subject “FoS1-RSVP”)

**SPEAKER:** Ray Khan, General Manager of Khan Scope Centre  
([www.khanscope.com](http://www.khanscope.com))



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If you have not received this e-newsletter directly, and would like to hear about future ASX news and events, please email [space.society@utoronto.ca](mailto:space.society@utoronto.ca) with subject line “Newsletter Signup”. We also invite you to join our facebook group: <http://www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=2226718345>

## SCHEDULE:

7:00-8:00 PM: Stargazing 101 workshop presented by Ray Khan  
8:10-9:00 PM: [U of T Astronomy Department Public Lecture](#) - SETI in the New Millennium  
9:00 PM: Observing/Stargazing

## WORKSHOP DETAILS:

Do you have a telescope and wish you had a better idea of how to use it? Are you planning to get one? Or are you curious about/interested in stargazing? Regardless of whether you are novice or more advanced, you will learn the secrets to get the most out of your equipment. You are invited to bring your instrument to this workshop, and you can use it after the workshop during the observing event (weather permitting).

## II. ASX Symposium: International Collaborations/Developments in Space

### DATE & TIME:

Friday, January 23, 2009, 7:00 PM  
(Doors open: 6 PM, Reception: 10 PM)

### LOCATION:

Convocation Hall, University of Toronto  
31 Kings College Circle, Toronto

### ADMISSION:

Students: **FREE** (with ID)  
Public: \$20

*Mark your calendar and stay tuned for more information, including pre-registration and how to obtain tickets.*

### SPEAKERS:

#### **Anousheh Ansari: the First Female Private Space Explorer & First Space Ambassador**

On September 18, 2006, Anousheh Ansari became the 4<sup>th</sup> private explorer to visit space and the first astronaut of Iranian descent. She is currently Chairman and CEO of Prodea Systems, Inc. Anousheh and her family provided title sponsorship for the Ansari X Prize. Anousheh currently works to enable social entrepreneurs to bring about radical change globally, with organizations such as X Prize, ASHOKA and the PARSA Community Foundation. More info: [www.anoushehansari.com](http://www.anoushehansari.com).



#### **Laura Lucier:**

Laura Lucier is a member of CSA's Robotics Flight Control team posted at the Johnson Space Center. She is one of the only nine Canadian Flight Controllers and the first Canadian woman, working at the front-room level, the highest level in the robotics discipline. Over the past four years, Ms. Lucier has planned and designed the STS-118/13A.1 shuttle mission, which included the installation of two new components of the space station and support of three spacewalks. Ms. Lucier is now working closely with JAXA (Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency) on the 2009 launch of the H-II Transfer Vehicle.

### III. Results of the ASX AGM and Bi-Elections

On October 7, 2008, ASX held its semi-annual meeting, and bi-elections. The meeting dealt with a number of club related issues, including the budget for this year’s January Symposium. Another feature of this meeting was the election of the vacant executive posts. Candidates were elected for the positions of Communications Director, Outreach Director, Secretary, and Marketing Coordinator. We welcome our newest members: Diana, Kalsoom, Iman and Greg to the team. We all look forward to putting together an exciting year of Astronomy and Space related activities for the U of T community.

ASX is pleased to announce the full roster of the 2008-2009 Executive Team:

<b>President:</b>	Farnaz Ghadaki
<b>VP:</b>	Elnaz Ghasemi
<b>Secretary:</b>	Iman Datta
<b>Finance Director:</b>	Belvis Wong
<b>Symposium Director:</b>	Yingying Fu
<b>Projects Director:</b>	Vivian Kao
<b>Marketing Director:</b>	David Rajzman
<b>Observing Director:</b>	Nivedita Chandrasekhar
<b>Communications Director:</b>	Diana Trang
<b>Outreach Director:</b>	Kalsoom Rashid
<b>High School Liaison:</b>	Mohamed Ali
<b>Marketing Coordinator:</b>	Greg Chung
<b>Webmaster:</b>	Richard Abrich

We are always looking for more volunteers to help out with exciting astronomy and space events. If you are interested in participating, you can email us at [space.society@utoronto.ca](mailto:space.society@utoronto.ca).

### IV. International Space News



#### Elon Musk’s Falcon I completes its first successful launch

On September 28, 2008, SpaceX’s Flight 4 of the Falcon 1 launch vehicle became the first privately developed liquid fuel rocket to orbit the Earth.

More info: <http://www.spacex.com/>

## Zhai Zhigang of The China National Space Agency is the first Chinese citizen to complete a spacewalk

Zhigang performed China's first spacewalk (lasting 15 minutes) during the country's 3<sup>rd</sup> manned space mission, named Shenzhou 7. He returned to Earth on September 28, 2008.

More info about China's space program and developments:  
<http://www.spacedaily.com/dragonspace.html>



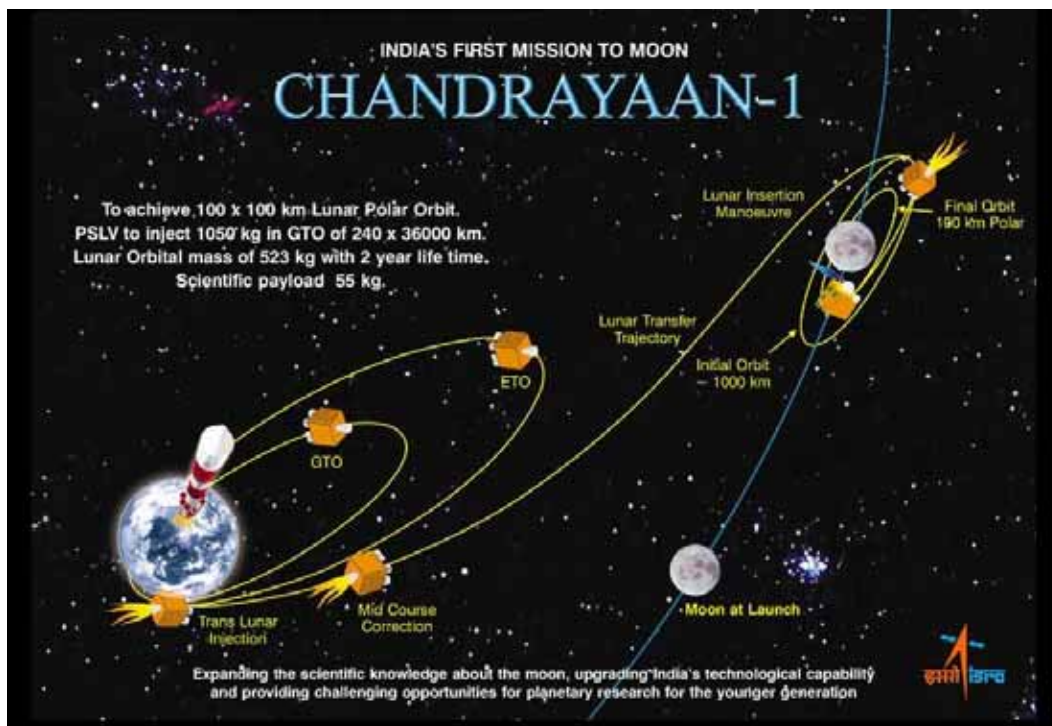
## Richard Garriot is the latest and 6<sup>th</sup> Private Space Explorer to visit the International Space Station (ISS)

Garriot launched onboard the Soyuz TMA-13 spacecraft from the Baikonur Cosmodrome in Kazakhstan on October 12. His two week mission cost him only \$30,000,000.

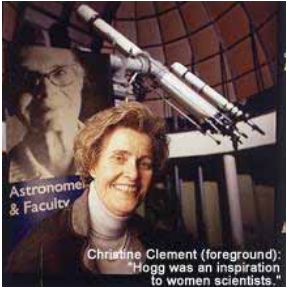
More info: <http://www.richardinspace.com/>

## Chandrayaan-1 is India's First Mission to the Moon (Oct 22, 2008)

More info: <http://www.chandrayaan-i.com/>



## V. Other Upcoming Astronomy/Space Events (free unless specified)



**Wednesday October 29, 2008**

### **RASC Toronto Centre Event**

Helen Sawyer Hogg -- A Twentieth Century Caroline Herschel  
Imperial Oil Auditorium at the Ontario Science Centre

Time: 7:30 PM

More info: [http://toronto.rasc.ca/content/article\\_462.shtml](http://toronto.rasc.ca/content/article_462.shtml)

**Friday October 31, 2008**

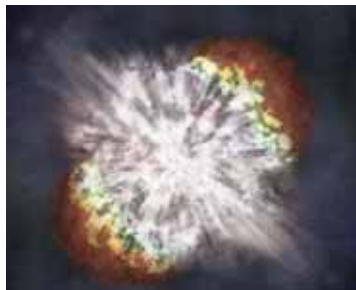
### **Halloween Star Party at Ontario Science Centre**

TELUSCAPE in front of main entrance

Time: 7 PM – 11 PM

More info:

<http://www.ontariosciencecentre.ca/calendar/default.asp?eventid=786&ddmmyyyy=25102008>



**Friday October 31, 2008**

### **U of T Department of Astronomy Weekly Lecture**

Dr. Mayam Modjaz (UC Berkely), *Examining Supernovae*  
Cody Hall, University of Toronto

Time: 2 PM – 3 PM (refreshments afterwards)

More info:

<http://www.astro.utoronto.ca/colloquia.html/long.shtml#Oct31>

**Saturday November 15, 2008**

### **York's Astronomy and Physics Clubs: Facing Mars at Ontario Science Centre**

Event includes admission to Science Centre, IMAX film,  
and tickets to Facing Mars Exhibit

\$10 for YUAC or PSI members (membership \$7)

Time: 10 AM

Tickets Available at 319 Bethune College, York University

More info: <http://www.yorku.ca/yuac/>  
<http://www.yorku.ca/physics/>



For national space events, refer to CSS discussion lists at <http://www.css.ca/discussionlists/>.

CSS Facebook group: <http://www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=12706081197>