International Space University welcomes Prof. Dr. Ehrenfreund as Vice-Chancellor

Paris, France: After a unanimous decision from the International Space University (ISU) Board of Trustees, Prof. Dr. Pascale Ehrenfreund accepted the offer to take the function of ISU Vice-Chancellor for the next 3 years initially. After the nomination of Dr. Buzz Aldrin as Chancellor, this diversification fits well in the ISU philosophy both from a gender, as well as from a geographical perspective.

Prof. Dr. Ehrenfreund studied astronomy and microbiology in Austria, obtained a PhD in astrophysics in France and a master’s degree in management in USA, hence can clearly be considered as a true internationalist. She has been both professor in astrobiology at Dutch Universities as well as professor in space policy at the George Washington University in USA.

As a scientist she was involved in several astrobiology experiments as PI (Principal Investigator), but also in space policy work, such as chairing the COSPAR Panel on Exploration, PEX. After being chair of the Austrian Science Fund, she was nominated in 2015 as Chair of the Executive Board at DLR, the German Aerospace Agency, being the first woman ever leading the Agency.

She has been a regular presenter in ISU at several events and in the Space Studies Program (SSP). As one interesting feature, it shall also be mentioned that in view of her scientific achievements, a main-belt asteroid (9826 Ehrenfreund) is named in her honor...

At a moment that ISU launches a Women In Aerospace chapter in Strasbourg, this gender diversification in the ISU management structure is highly welcomed!
The International Space University, founded in 1987 in Massachusetts, US and now headquartered in Strasbourg, France, is the world’s premier international space education institution. It is supported by major space agencies and aerospace organizations from around the world. The graduate level programs offered by ISU are dedicated to promoting international, interdisciplinary and intercultural cooperation in space activities. ISU offers the Master of Science in Space Studies and Master of Science in Space Management programs at its Central Campus in Strasbourg. Since the summer of 1988, ISU also conducts the highly acclaimed nine-week Space Studies Program at different host institutions in locations spanning the globe. ISU programs are delivered by over 100 ISU faculty members in concert with invited industry and agency experts from institutions around the world. Since its founding, 25 years ago, more than 4000 students from over 100 countries graduated from ISU. www.isunet.edu