

ICSS

Introducing



The Interdisciplinary Centre for Space Studies
at KU Leuven

www.icss.be

KATHOLIEKE UNIVERSITEIT
LEUVEN

ICSS

Management Board



- André Aubert (Cardiology)
- Frank Beckers (Cardiology)
- Roger Bouillon (Medicine)
- Greet Carmeliet (Medicine)
- Roland Defever (KHBO)
- Kevin Madders (Space Policy and Law, ICSS Managing Director)
- Dirk Vandepitte (Mechanical Engineering)
- Christoffel Waelkens (Astronomy, ICSS Academic Director)
- Jan Wouters (International law)

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Objectives



- Coordinate and cluster research activities within KU Leuven to achieve/build upon critical mass
- Combine existing academic strengths at KU Leuven and reach out to collaborative partners
- Build a strong educational and research programme
- Follow and assist in shaping Belgian, European and international space policy and projects
- Act as catalyst for research-driven demands of industry and broader sector

Features of Leuven



- Centrally located; proximity to ESA & CEC
- Existing strong resources and a bottom-up development of space expertise in ICSS
- Extensive experimental & project experience
- European Space Policy Workshops as example and platform
- Participation in relevant bodies
- Strong existing collaborative links

Bringing space to the student



- Integrate and strengthen space in undergraduate teaching
- Establish a broad-based Masters in Space Studies programme
- Create a PhD in Space Studies, with MSS as pre-doctoral stage
- Interlinking with other Institutions and their programmes; student exchanges

Deepening & broadening study of space



- An integrated research programme from MSS and PhD work to third party projects
- Research themes defined in harmony with European policy developments and priorities
- Independent and authoritative analysis and opinion
 - for national and European authorities
 - for industry
- Open source policy where possible

Organisation



- ICSS Office and allocated resources
- Management Board
- Advisory Board with international, broad-based participation
- Research meetings with invitees
- Sponsorship opportunities
- Dynamic website as portal

KUL-SNI European Space Policy Workshops: “the Leuven Process”



- Launched in September 2002 by KU Leuven and SNI at critical juncture for new policy reflection
- Provides a unique setting for in-depth dialogue on strategic issues of Europe’s space policy, in independent forum to high academic standards
- Supported by ESA, European Commission, Belgian government, Eumetsat, BNSC, industry

Bases for potential cooperation



- Familiarization phase
- Examination of network approach
- Project-based discussion
- Clarification of bottom-up and top-down added value roles
- Interface MOU of limited duration and scope