About USRA

Formed in 1969, under the auspices of the National Academies of Science, Universities Space Research Association is an independent non-profit organization that offers an avenue for government and industry to engage the expertise of the academic community with USRA's technical leadership, innovative R&D, operational excellence, management of premier facilities, and education programs to advance space- and aeronautics-related sciences and exploration.

Approach & Organization

Key to USRA’s capabilities is the role of universities. In FY 2016, more than 380 universities were directly involved in USRA activities and USRA supported more than 1,600 internships. USRA research locations employ more than 500 scientific, technical, and professional staff. More than 65% of USRA employees have advanced technical degrees, and more than 40% hold Ph.D.s.

World-class scientific investigators
- Advancing space and aeronautics
- Solving complex problems
- Fostering collaborations and working in partnership with academia, government and industry
- Serving the public good

Outstanding program management in operating premier facilities

Cutting-edge science benefitting from independent science advisory councils

Advancing STEM education from K-12 to postdoctoral programs
CORE COMPETENCIES

- Astronomy and Astrophysics
- Planetary Science
- Earth Sciences
- Space Life Sciences
- Materials Science
- Fluid Physics
- Space Nuclear Power and Propulsion
- Computational Sciences
- Aeronautical Sciences
- Facility Management and Operation
- Education and STEM Workforce Development