



NEWS RELEASE

Commission on Moon, Mars and Beyond

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

ENTERTAINMENT INDUSTRY, ROBOTICS, AND EDUCATION EXPERTS TO TESTIFY IN SAN FRANCISCO

ARLINGTON, Virginia, April 9, 2004 – Experts from the fields of education, entertainment, and robotics will appear as witnesses before the President's Commission on Moon, Mars and Beyond in a public hearing to be held in San Francisco, April 15 and 16, 2004. The hearing will take place at the Galileo Academy of Science and Technology, 1150 Francisco Street, San Francisco, California.

Space writer Ray Bradbury will lead off the testimonies, which begin at 1:15 p.m. on Thursday, April 15. He will be joined by television and computer games experts. The second panel of the day will focus on education: Astronaut/educator Barbara Morgan will speak, along with the Executive Directors of the National Science Teachers Association and the National Alliance of State Science and Mathematics Coalitions. A panel of labor representatives will complete the first day of testimony.

On Friday, April 16, the hearing will begin at 9:00 a.m. with testimony from propulsion experts Byron Wood, Mike Martin and Jim Mosquera. The 10:15 a.m. presentation is titled "Prospects for Space Prosperity,"

and will be followed by a panel on “Asteroids, Mars and Beyond.” Carnegie Mellon Robotics expert Red Whittaker will address the Commission at 1:00 p.m., and the hearing will conclude with audience comments from 3:00 to 3:30 p.m. and a press conference at 3:45.

A list of confirmed witnesses with timeline is attached.

The President’s Commission on Implementation of U.S. Space Exploration Policy (Moon, Mars and Beyond) is charged with building consensus, providing recommendations to the President regarding moon research activities, increasing young people’s interest in space science, and bringing in industry and other countries as space partners.

Information about the President’s Commission on Moon, Mars and Beyond is available at:

<http://www.moontomars.org>