



March 31, 2009

Dear Colleague,

Because of your special expertise and interest, the Personal Spaceflight Federation cordially invites you to attend our second Emerging Commercial Suborbital Science Workshop, which will focus on biological sciences and aeromedical research. The workshop will take place at the Westin Bonaventure Hotel & Suites in Los Angeles, California on Sunday, May 3, 2009 from 12:30 pm to 5:30 pm. This event is being held in conjunction with the Aerospace Medical Association Annual Meeting and sponsored by the Universities Space Research Association and NASA.

Vehicles under development by emerging commercial suborbital companies, such as Virgin Galactic, Armadillo Aerospace, Blue Origin, Masten Space Systems, and XCOR Aerospace, will allow unprecedented access to the space environment. The unique ability to carry human participants and biological payloads in a shirtsleeve environment will enable new research in aerospace medicine and other life sciences, including neuro-vestibular research, sensorimotor adaptation, and acute cellular responses. Rapid turnaround and fly on demand capabilities will create new opportunities at a lower cost than many existing methods of research. In addition, these new vehicles can offer an affordable platform for risk reduction and flight qualification of experimental hardware.

The purpose of this workshop is to bring interested researchers together with these suborbital vehicle developers to begin to understand the potential of these vehicles by engaging in small group discussions and exchanging technical information. Attendees will have the opportunity to learn about the options offered by a wide range of commercial suborbital service providers and discuss the capabilities, needs, constraints, and opportunities of this program. Equally important, commercial suborbital service providers will have the opportunity to receive input on how their vehicles can be made to best be of service to your research community.

Please take a moment to review the workshop information at <http://suborbitalex.arc.nasa.gov/>, and if you have any questions regarding the workshop that have not been addressed please feel free to contact us there.

To assist with our preparations, please RSVP by contacting Lisa Chu-Thielbar before April 26, 2009 at [lisa.chu-thielbar@nasa.gov](mailto:lisa.chu-thielbar@nasa.gov). We look forward to seeing you at the event.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Bretton Alexander".

Bretton Alexander  
President