

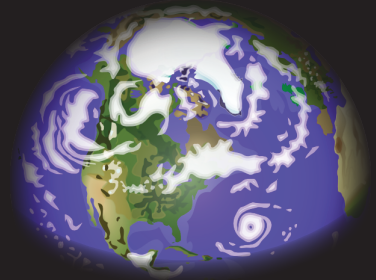
Wellington Engineering and Science Festival 2016 Lecture Series

Where to next? Human spaceflight at the crossroads

Presentation by David Maclennan

NASA's long-term vision is for a human mission to Mars, but its strategy for getting there is flawed, as it does not include the most logical intermediate step: a return to the Moon.

Instead, NASA's proposed intermediate step is to retrieve a large boulder from an asteroid and send an astronaut crew out to investigate it – a plan that is not getting much support from either Congress or the scientific community. A return to the Moon would be a better way to prepare for a journey to Mars, as much of the technology needed for a Mars mission, such as habitats, life-support systems, rovers, tools and instruments, could be first proven under real off-world conditions on the Moon. In addition, recent robotic missions have shown the Moon to be a worthwhile scientific target in its own right.



Where: National Library, 70 Molesworth Street

When: 19 April 2016, 5:30 PM to 6:30PM

About the Speaker

David Maclennan has been lecturing and writing about space exploration for over four decades. A founder and former President of the NZ Spaceflight Association, he also edited the Association's journal *Liftoff* for many years.

Please register online
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