

AIAA Greater Huntsville Section Organizes a Private Planetarium Show

by

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Friday, March 29th, the Greater Huntsville Section organized a private planetarium show for AIAA members and guests at the Wernher Von Braun Planetarium located in Monte Sano State Park in Huntsville, AL. The Section subsidized the planetarium entry fee so that members could attend the show for only \$1. The event announcement received a tremendous response and sold out 24 hours before the registration deadline. 64 members and guests attended the show. Some student members came from as far as Tuscaloosa. Section Chair, Alex Jehle welcomed everyone to the show, thanked all the members for supporting the Section's activities and introduced the speaker, Dr. Naveen Vetcha. Naveen started the show by playing a short video about the history of the Von Braun Astronomical Society ([VBAS](#)) and Dr. Von Braun's role in establishing the society. He then spoke about the asteroids, consequences of their impacts and planetary protection strategies from future impacts. Following this, he projected the night sky over Huntsville onto the planetarium dome and pointed out various constellations that are visible this time of the year. Attendees were also given the opportunity to touch and feel the meteorite collection available at VBAS. Unfortunately, weather conditions were not favorable for observing through the telescopes, but VBAS volunteers gave a tour of Swanson observatory which houses a 21 inch telescope. The AIAA Greater Huntsville Section thanks VBAS for accommodating this private show.



AIAA Greater Huntsville Section members and guests at the planetarium show