

## Apollo 17 Astronaut Schmitt Greets Conference

Greetings to you all. I am sorry that I cannot be with you and join in the exciting discussions I know will take place during this conference.

Deep space, from the Moon outward, is the equivalent of Earth's wildernesses of the 1800s. Deep space's enormous influence on lives, science, and the future of humankind has just begun. Lunar science and energy enable a far broader range of human activities, including lunar and Martian settlement, planetary protection from impacts, and a rejuvenation of human freedom.

Good luck in your deliberations.



NASA/Debbie McCallum

*Former astronaut and U.S. senator Harrison Smith at NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center, 2009.*

Best regards,  
Harrison H. Schmitt  
Apollo 17 Astronaut  
Former U.S. Senator  
Author, *Return to the Moon*