## 440 Days Till Launch

As you all are aware, our nation and the world as a whole is struggling with the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. In response to the current situation, on March 24<sup>th</sup> Spaceport America and the Experimental Sounding Rocket Association canceled the 2020 Spaceport America Cup. You can find the official press release here: https://www.spaceportamericacup.com/news/2020-spaceport-america-cup-cancelled.

The competition cancellation, combined with health concerns and university recommendations have lead the AIAA student branch to suspend all activities for the remainder of the 2020 spring semester. This includes our AIAA Distinguished Lecturer event with Mr. Thomas A. Morgenfeld and our planned outreach with John Wallace Middle School. We would like to take this opportunity to thank Mr. Morgenfeld for kindly offering to speak with us, and we hope to be able to speak with him in the future.

The AIAA executive board is working to put together a continuation solution to ensure a smooth transition into the 2020-2021 academic year. As part of the competition cancellation, we have been guaranteed a spot in the 2021 Spaceport America Cup, which we plan to take advantage of. The rocketry team lead Patrick Meagher will be returning again next year, and the team is planning to resume construction of the rocket at the start of the fall semester, 2020.



We want to thank all of our supporters for their generosity throughout the semester. It was an incredible disappointment not to be able to compete this year. Your contributions will be critical to support our competition in the 2021 Spaceport America Cup, and you should expect to see progress towards the 2021 competition starting in the fall semester.

Want to stay updated with what's happening?

Check our progress at https://aiaa.engr.rso.uconn.edu/.

## Interested in joining?

Campus closures due to COVID-19. All club activities have been suspended until the beginning of the fall semester, 2020. That said, if you want to keep in touch and get involved in planning for the 2020-2021 year, please email branch president Cody Corey (cody.corey@uconn.edu) or rocketry team lead Patrick Meagher (patrick.meagher@uconn.edu).



