

## EMAIL

---

From: Meghan McGowan, Purdue University Communications  
To: Jacob Batchelor, Associate Editor, Scholastic Science World  
<jbatchelor@scholastic.com>  
Subject: Journey to Mars, Powered by Students  
Date: March 15, 2017

Dear Jacob,

In your 2011 article “Life on Mars,” you wrote that a mission to Mars for human colonization was still a long way off. But new research by a team of Purdue University students—led by legendary Apollo 11 astronaut Buzz Aldrin—may help put the first human on Mars before 2030.

Just a few years ago, the students on our Human Journey to Mars team were seated in middle and high school classrooms around the country, just like your readers. On April 27, they will stand beside the second man to walk on the moon and unveil conceptual plans they created for a pioneering colony on Mars. Their base would support about 50 people and have the potential for establishing a long-term colony on the Red Planet. I’ve attached a small infographic about the science behind the potential journey to Mars.

In addition to Aldrin, guests from NASA, Lockheed Martin, and Boeing will be in attendance at the forum to discuss the future of space travel. Through Science World, we’d love to make the next generation of researchers, engineers, and space explorers part of this history-making conversation.

This press release contains full details about the event:

<http://www.purdue.edu/newsroom/releases/2017/Q2/buzz-aldrin,-nasa-officials-to-discuss-future-of-space-travel.html>

Please let me know if you’re interested in joining Buzz Aldrin and our students here in the “Cradle of Astronauts” for the forum. I’m happy to make arrangements for interviews.

Kind regards,

Meghan McGowan  
Purdue University  
Mcgowam@purdue.edu  
570.801.5847

# HUMAN JOURNEY TO MARS

## WHY MARS?

With the exception of Earth, Mars is the **MOST HOSPITABLE PLANET** in our solar system for sustaining a human colony.



## DO WE HAVE THE TECHNOLOGY?

# YES

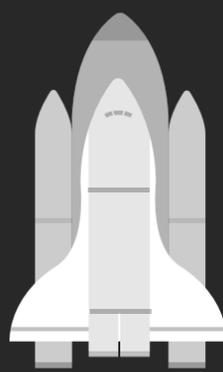
With legendary Apollo 11 astronaut Buzz Aldrin, Purdue University students developed new concepts for establishing a pioneering base on Mars.

## CAN I GO ALONG?

There would be enough room and resources on the first base to support up to:

# 50

SPACE TRAVELERS



## HOW SOON?

# 2030

Aldrin wants humans on Mars in the next 13 years.

## GETTING TO MARS

Aldrin and his team believe the best way to travel the 140 million miles to Mars is to use its moon, Phobos, as an interplanetary space station. "Cycler" spacecraft would take humans from Earth to Phobos, where crews would construct a Martian lander.

DISTANCE:

# 140

MILLION MILES

