



1  
00:00:10,230 --> 00:00:08,150  
expedition 43 now underway is of course

2  
00:00:12,870 --> 00:00:10,240  
the start of the one-year mission for

3  
00:00:15,030 --> 00:00:12,880  
scott kelly and mikhail kornienko and

4  
00:00:16,950 --> 00:00:15,040  
it's devoted to expanding our knowledge

5  
00:00:19,189 --> 00:00:16,960  
of what it'll take to support human

6  
00:00:20,630 --> 00:00:19,199  
explorers on deep space missions in the

7  
00:00:22,470 --> 00:00:20,640  
years to come

8  
00:00:24,550 --> 00:00:22,480  
some experiments are designed to learn

9  
00:00:26,630 --> 00:00:24,560  
how the space environment impacts the

10  
00:00:28,870 --> 00:00:26,640  
human bodies but there's also a new

11  
00:00:31,669 --> 00:00:28,880  
experiment dedicated to learning how the

12  
00:00:34,229 --> 00:00:31,679  
man-made environment impacts the comfort

13  
00:00:36,310 --> 00:00:34,239

and efficiency of the crew members that

14

00:00:38,389 --> 00:00:36,320

experiment is called the habitability

15

00:00:40,310 --> 00:00:38,399

assessment of the international space

16

00:00:42,630 --> 00:00:40,320

station and the principal investigator

17

00:00:44,389 --> 00:00:42,640

is dr sherry thaxton of the human

18

00:00:46,229 --> 00:00:44,399

systems engineering and development

19

00:00:48,229 --> 00:00:46,239

division at nasa's johnson space center

20

00:00:50,069 --> 00:00:48,239

good morning good morning um let me

21

00:00:51,670 --> 00:00:50,079

start by asking you for the summary

22

00:00:54,950 --> 00:00:51,680

description what is it that you're

23

00:00:56,630 --> 00:00:54,960

studying in habitability okay so it's a

24

00:00:58,069 --> 00:00:56,640

habitability and human factor study

25

00:00:59,750 --> 00:00:58,079

which basically means we're looking at

26

00:01:01,590 --> 00:00:59,760

how the humans interact with their

27

00:01:03,430 --> 00:01:01,600

living and working environment we want

28

00:01:05,830 --> 00:01:03,440

to make sure that we design vehicles and

29

00:01:07,429 --> 00:01:05,840

habitats so that it accommodates for the

30

00:01:10,469 --> 00:01:07,439

person instead of the person having to

31

00:01:12,390 --> 00:01:10,479

adjust to what we throw up for them

32

00:01:13,670 --> 00:01:12,400

as we look at longer duration missions

33

00:01:16,390 --> 00:01:13,680

like we're going to have for near earth

34

00:01:18,230 --> 00:01:16,400

asteroid or mars missions the

35

00:01:20,550 --> 00:01:18,240

longer you're in the vehicle the more

36

00:01:22,070 --> 00:01:20,560

critical those concerns become just

37

00:01:24,230 --> 00:01:22,080

because you have to deal with it longer

38

00:01:25,749 --> 00:01:24,240

and longer um one of the top concerns we

39

00:01:27,749 --> 00:01:25,759

have as far as habitability goes is how

40

00:01:29,429 --> 00:01:27,759

much volume you have in your spacecraft

41

00:01:31,830 --> 00:01:29,439

so how much space do i have do i have

42

00:01:34,069 --> 00:01:31,840

enough room to get my job done iss is

43

00:01:36,230 --> 00:01:34,079

kind of luxury as far as volume goes

44

00:01:38,230 --> 00:01:36,240

they have a lot of space up there but we

45

00:01:40,310 --> 00:01:38,240

might not have that same luxury in

46

00:01:42,149 --> 00:01:40,320

future spacecraft so we want to learn

47

00:01:43,270 --> 00:01:42,159

what we can from them now about the

48

00:01:44,870 --> 00:01:43,280

tasks that they're doing and how they

49

00:01:46,469 --> 00:01:44,880

perform them so that we can feed that

50

00:01:48,550 --> 00:01:46,479

into future designs so what we're asking

51  
00:01:50,789 --> 00:01:48,560  
them to do as part of this mission is to

52  
00:01:52,710 --> 00:01:50,799  
give us feedback about habitable and

53  
00:01:53,990 --> 00:01:52,720  
human factors observations and then

54  
00:01:55,910 --> 00:01:54,000  
we're also going to try to assess

55  
00:01:58,149 --> 00:01:55,920  
details about layout and volume that we

56  
00:02:01,270 --> 00:01:58,159  
can feed into future design so you're

57  
00:02:04,389 --> 00:02:01,280  
interested in how they make use of the

58  
00:02:06,389 --> 00:02:04,399  
available space right what kinds of

59  
00:02:07,670 --> 00:02:06,399  
are there like a list of activities that

60  
00:02:09,109 --> 00:02:07,680  
you're particularly interested we do we

61  
00:02:10,630 --> 00:02:09,119  
actually have a list of 14 tasks that

62  
00:02:12,630 --> 00:02:10,640  
we're really interested in and so we're

63  
00:02:14,550 --> 00:02:12,640

targeting those throughout this mission

64

00:02:16,150 --> 00:02:14,560

um we also just want their feedback on

65

00:02:17,670 --> 00:02:16,160

whatever they come up with day-to-day

66

00:02:19,589 --> 00:02:17,680

but we're particularly interested in

67

00:02:21,350 --> 00:02:19,599

things like how they perform their

68

00:02:23,270 --> 00:02:21,360

hygiene activities do they have enough

69

00:02:25,670 --> 00:02:23,280

space in their sleep quarters to perform

70

00:02:27,270 --> 00:02:25,680

their personal activities um how much

71

00:02:28,949 --> 00:02:27,280

room does it take if they all want to

72

00:02:30,550 --> 00:02:28,959

get together for a meal that they share

73

00:02:32,390 --> 00:02:30,560

together how much room do they need for

74

00:02:34,390 --> 00:02:32,400

for recreation all of those kinds of

75

00:02:36,470 --> 00:02:34,400

tasks are things that they will be doing

76

00:02:37,910 --> 00:02:36,480

on long duration missions in the future

77

00:02:39,030 --> 00:02:37,920

and we want to make sure that we have a

78

00:02:41,030 --> 00:02:39,040

good understanding of how they're

79

00:02:42,790 --> 00:02:41,040

performed now so that we can help

80

00:02:44,869 --> 00:02:42,800

provide tools to designers to give them

81

00:02:46,470 --> 00:02:44,879

what they need in the future

82

00:02:48,470 --> 00:02:46,480

you're trying to find out if what they

83

00:02:50,150 --> 00:02:48,480

have works or

84

00:02:52,070 --> 00:02:50,160

does what they have now work and if not

85

00:02:53,990 --> 00:02:52,080

what would you do differently or we know

86

00:02:55,750 --> 00:02:54,000

what we have now works so make sure we

87

00:02:57,589 --> 00:02:55,760

carry that forward with us so we don't

88

00:02:59,990 --> 00:02:57,599

lose something yes that's good is it

89

00:03:01,110 --> 00:03:00,000

just a matter of comfort physical

90

00:03:02,309 --> 00:03:01,120

comfort or

91

00:03:04,390 --> 00:03:02,319

does that

92

00:03:06,470 --> 00:03:04,400

ability to use that space

93

00:03:08,390 --> 00:03:06,480

really make a difference well in their

94

00:03:10,070 --> 00:03:08,400

job or yours or mine oh yeah definitely

95

00:03:12,149 --> 00:03:10,080

it goes beyond physical comfort we're

96

00:03:13,670 --> 00:03:12,159

looking at efficiency and effectiveness

97

00:03:15,670 --> 00:03:13,680

and satisfaction are some of the top

98

00:03:17,830 --> 00:03:15,680

three things we look at in this field so

99

00:03:20,470 --> 00:03:17,840

the efficiency is really important for

100

00:03:22,309 --> 00:03:20,480

space because time is very expensive for

101

00:03:23,910 --> 00:03:22,319

astronauts and so if we can lay things

102

00:03:25,430 --> 00:03:23,920

out better if we can provide them better

103

00:03:26,949 --> 00:03:25,440

tools to get their job done more

104

00:03:29,430 --> 00:03:26,959

efficiently

105

00:03:31,030 --> 00:03:29,440

we save money we provide more time for

106

00:03:32,390 --> 00:03:31,040

them to get more science done all the

107

00:03:33,509 --> 00:03:32,400

important things that they're doing on

108

00:03:35,750 --> 00:03:33,519

orbit

109

00:03:37,750 --> 00:03:35,760

the effectiveness if we don't give them

110

00:03:39,190 --> 00:03:37,760

the right space the right design then

111

00:03:40,949 --> 00:03:39,200

they might not actually even be able to

112

00:03:43,030 --> 00:03:40,959

get the tasks done like i said iss is

113

00:03:45,589 --> 00:03:43,040

kind of luxurious we want to make sure

114

00:03:47,110 --> 00:03:45,599

as we try to cramp down into a smaller

115

00:03:49,110 --> 00:03:47,120

volume that's easier to launch for a

116

00:03:49,910 --> 00:03:49,120

longer duration mission

117

00:03:52,149 --> 00:03:49,920

we want to make sure that they're

118

00:03:54,070 --> 00:03:52,159

actually able to get those jobs done

119

00:03:55,990 --> 00:03:54,080

and then the satisfaction is beyond just

120

00:03:57,750 --> 00:03:56,000

is it comfy it's

121

00:03:59,670 --> 00:03:57,760

when you're there for that long if

122

00:04:01,750 --> 00:03:59,680

there's little things that are adding up

123

00:04:03,270 --> 00:04:01,760

and causing you frustration it's going

124

00:04:04,949 --> 00:04:03,280

to start to impact your performance we

125

00:04:07,110 --> 00:04:04,959

work closely with the behavioral health

126  
00:04:09,110 --> 00:04:07,120  
and performance element here at nasa

127  
00:04:10,869 --> 00:04:09,120  
they look into research about

128  
00:04:12,710 --> 00:04:10,879  
how these things impact their behavioral

129  
00:04:13,750 --> 00:04:12,720  
health and performance and it's so we

130  
00:04:14,869 --> 00:04:13,760  
kind of look at the physical side and

131  
00:04:16,150 --> 00:04:14,879  
then we team up with them to look at the

132  
00:04:17,749 --> 00:04:16,160  
psychological side and make sure we're

133  
00:04:19,110 --> 00:04:17,759  
covering all aspects of the impacts of

134  
00:04:21,430 --> 00:04:19,120  
the human

135  
00:04:23,030 --> 00:04:21,440  
how are you getting data from the crew

136  
00:04:25,030 --> 00:04:23,040  
members on this are you just watching

137  
00:04:27,350 --> 00:04:25,040  
them on the downlink video or well there

138  
00:04:29,270 --> 00:04:27,360

is some of that but we also developed an

139

00:04:31,510 --> 00:04:29,280

app that they have on their ipads and so

140

00:04:32,230 --> 00:04:31,520

it provides them an easy platform to go

141

00:04:34,710 --> 00:04:32,240

to

142

00:04:37,510 --> 00:04:34,720

they can give us text they can take

143

00:04:39,030 --> 00:04:37,520

photos videos do audio recordings and

144

00:04:41,189 --> 00:04:39,040

then it's all in one place and they can

145

00:04:43,430 --> 00:04:41,199

hit a button and it comes to us and it's

146

00:04:45,670 --> 00:04:43,440

low overhead for the crew

147

00:04:47,830 --> 00:04:45,680

they also can take questionnaires within

148

00:04:49,749 --> 00:04:47,840

the app so we can adjust what questions

149

00:04:51,590 --> 00:04:49,759

we ask them throughout the mission based

150

00:04:53,270 --> 00:04:51,600

on things we've been seeing

151  
00:04:55,430 --> 00:04:53,280  
in addition to using that app to give us

152  
00:04:57,430 --> 00:04:55,440  
data we're going to have some real-time

153  
00:04:59,110 --> 00:04:57,440  
debriefs with the people that do the

154  
00:05:00,550 --> 00:04:59,120  
post-mission human factors debriefs

155  
00:05:01,749 --> 00:05:00,560  
which is usually months after they get

156  
00:05:03,909 --> 00:05:01,759  
back and so there's probably some

157  
00:05:05,270 --> 00:05:03,919  
detailed loss in the time in between

158  
00:05:07,189 --> 00:05:05,280  
they're part of our research team and

159  
00:05:08,469 --> 00:05:07,199  
they're going to come in and ask some

160  
00:05:10,469 --> 00:05:08,479  
questions based on what we've been

161  
00:05:11,909 --> 00:05:10,479  
seeing through this application

162  
00:05:13,350 --> 00:05:11,919  
and through the questionnaires that

163  
00:05:15,590 --> 00:05:13,360

we've received

164

00:05:18,390 --> 00:05:15,600

give me a sense of how that data gets

165

00:05:19,189 --> 00:05:18,400

applied to the future spacecraft how how

166

00:05:20,710 --> 00:05:19,199

do

167

00:05:22,830 --> 00:05:20,720

those designers look at what you're

168

00:05:25,270 --> 00:05:22,840

gathering now and and put it into

169

00:05:27,350 --> 00:05:25,280

practice so this is one of many

170

00:05:29,110 --> 00:05:27,360

experiments and studies that we have

171

00:05:31,830 --> 00:05:29,120

going on as part of our habitability

172

00:05:34,150 --> 00:05:31,840

research portfolio and our goal as

173

00:05:36,390 --> 00:05:34,160

researchers is to try to

174

00:05:38,310 --> 00:05:36,400

to get it into a form that will be

175

00:05:40,550 --> 00:05:38,320

standards and guidelines for designers

176  
00:05:42,629 --> 00:05:40,560  
in the future everyone will look to

177  
00:05:43,749 --> 00:05:42,639  
a book that will tell them

178  
00:05:45,510 --> 00:05:43,759  
these are the rules that you need to

179  
00:05:46,710 --> 00:05:45,520  
follow as you build it in addition to

180  
00:05:48,070 --> 00:05:46,720  
that beyond that some of these things

181  
00:05:49,430 --> 00:05:48,080  
are kind of tricky to apply because it's

182  
00:05:50,870 --> 00:05:49,440  
easy to say

183  
00:05:52,150 --> 00:05:50,880  
you know don't put things that make a

184  
00:05:53,350 --> 00:05:52,160  
mess next to things that need to be

185  
00:05:55,189 --> 00:05:53,360  
cleaned but then when you're actually

186  
00:05:57,110 --> 00:05:55,199  
laying it out it's more complicated than

187  
00:05:58,629 --> 00:05:57,120  
that so we're also working on developing

188  
00:06:00,790 --> 00:05:58,639

models and tools and so this would be

189

00:06:02,629 --> 00:06:00,800

important inputs into those models if we

190

00:06:04,469 --> 00:06:02,639

can see how they perform the tasks now

191

00:06:06,070 --> 00:06:04,479

then it can it can give us information

192

00:06:08,550 --> 00:06:06,080

into how it works and we can feed that

193

00:06:10,230 --> 00:06:08,560

into models and give a nice tool to

194

00:06:11,990 --> 00:06:10,240

designers that they can use and play

195

00:06:13,350 --> 00:06:12,000

with the layout and and see if they're

196

00:06:14,550 --> 00:06:13,360

meeting all of our requirements and

197

00:06:16,150 --> 00:06:14,560

desires

198

00:06:17,990 --> 00:06:16,160

is what you're gathering here so

199

00:06:20,390 --> 00:06:18,000

specific that it's really only

200

00:06:23,430 --> 00:06:20,400

applicable to a space vehicle or could

201  
00:06:24,629 --> 00:06:23,440  
it have application terrestrially

202  
00:06:26,469 --> 00:06:24,639  
there are definitely terrestrial

203  
00:06:28,790 --> 00:06:26,479  
applications we've worked in the past

204  
00:06:30,710 --> 00:06:28,800  
when we're working on developing this

205  
00:06:31,749 --> 00:06:30,720  
experiment and looking at what tasks are

206  
00:06:33,350 --> 00:06:31,759  
important

207  
00:06:34,550 --> 00:06:33,360  
with folks from the oil and gas industry

208  
00:06:35,510 --> 00:06:34,560  
being in houston that's convenient we

209  
00:06:37,909 --> 00:06:35,520  
can meet with them they're very

210  
00:06:40,309 --> 00:06:37,919  
interested in it in the context of rigs

211  
00:06:41,510 --> 00:06:40,319  
that people would live on long term out

212  
00:06:43,270 --> 00:06:41,520  
on the ocean

213  
00:06:45,430 --> 00:06:43,280

we also work with

214

00:06:47,430 --> 00:06:45,440

folks who design ships for the navy with

215

00:06:50,469 --> 00:06:47,440

people who design habitats for antarctic

216

00:06:52,950 --> 00:06:50,479

research stations with other

217

00:06:54,870 --> 00:06:52,960

submarines and commercial shipping

218

00:06:57,110 --> 00:06:54,880

industry we've we've got kind of a

219

00:06:58,150 --> 00:06:57,120

network of people that we reach out to

220

00:06:59,350 --> 00:06:58,160

that they're interested in what we're

221

00:07:00,870 --> 00:06:59,360

doing and we're interested in what

222

00:07:04,230 --> 00:07:00,880

they're doing so they may not have

223

00:07:06,150 --> 00:07:04,240

somebody doing um you know a treadmill

224

00:07:07,830 --> 00:07:06,160

in microgravity in their environment but

225

00:07:09,830 --> 00:07:07,840

they're still interested in the process

226

00:07:12,469 --> 00:07:09,840

of how do we come up with these answers

227

00:07:14,150 --> 00:07:12,479

how do we how do we approach the problem

228

00:07:15,270 --> 00:07:14,160

and and they're they're interested in

229

00:07:17,510 --> 00:07:15,280

the same type of things anybody that's

230

00:07:19,350 --> 00:07:17,520

looking at people and can find spaces in

231

00:07:20,469 --> 00:07:19,360

extreme environments for long periods of

232

00:07:22,230 --> 00:07:20,479

time

233

00:07:23,830 --> 00:07:22,240

very interesting to see how that works

234

00:07:25,350 --> 00:07:23,840

out thank you for uh for telling us

235

00:07:27,909 --> 00:07:25,360

about it you're welcome dr sherry

236

00:07:29,670 --> 00:07:27,919

thaxton is the principal investigator of