



1
00:00:10,310 --> 00:00:07,909
now the international space station by

2
00:00:12,150 --> 00:00:10,320
design is meant to involve scientists

3
00:00:14,629 --> 00:00:12,160
from all over the world in doing

4
00:00:17,029 --> 00:00:14,639
research on this unique asset

5
00:00:20,150 --> 00:00:17,039
in the 15 years of continuous human

6
00:00:21,910 --> 00:00:20,160
habitation of the station more than 1700

7
00:00:24,950 --> 00:00:21,920
experiments have been done by

8
00:00:26,070 --> 00:00:24,960
researchers representing 83 different

9
00:00:27,990 --> 00:00:26,080
countries

10
00:00:29,509 --> 00:00:28,000
one of the organizations behind those

11
00:00:32,790 --> 00:00:29,519
numbers is the center for the

12
00:00:34,790 --> 00:00:32,800
advancement of science in space or cases

13
00:00:36,549 --> 00:00:34,800

and this morning we're joined by dr

14

00:00:38,709 --> 00:00:36,559

michael roberts the deputy chief

15

00:00:40,790 --> 00:00:38,719

scientist at cases to learn more thanks

16

00:00:42,549 --> 00:00:40,800

for joining us thank you man you can

17

00:00:44,790 --> 00:00:42,559

push the button and we'll thank everyone

18

00:00:48,069 --> 00:00:44,800

here to be here today

19

00:00:50,069 --> 00:00:48,079

cases was chosen by nasa back in 2011 to

20

00:00:51,910 --> 00:00:50,079

manage the international space station

21

00:00:53,510 --> 00:00:51,920

national laboratory

22

00:00:56,069 --> 00:00:53,520

quickly tell me what a national

23

00:00:58,389 --> 00:00:56,079

laboratory is but but how is cases

24

00:01:00,869 --> 00:00:58,399

working to fulfill that mission

25

00:01:02,549 --> 00:01:00,879

so national laboratories are facilities

26

00:01:04,149 --> 00:01:02,559

that are designed to support research

27

00:01:06,310 --> 00:01:04,159

and technology development interests of

28

00:01:07,830 --> 00:01:06,320

the united states there are several that

29

00:01:09,670 --> 00:01:07,840

operate here on the ground but there's

30

00:01:11,190 --> 00:01:09,680

only one that operates in low earth

31

00:01:12,789 --> 00:01:11,200

orbit that's the international space

32

00:01:15,670 --> 00:01:12,799

station national lab

33

00:01:17,670 --> 00:01:15,680

cases role in supporting that is that we

34

00:01:19,590 --> 00:01:17,680

help to manage and provide access to

35

00:01:22,230 --> 00:01:19,600

that national laboratory for any

36

00:01:24,550 --> 00:01:22,240

us-based investigator that can benefit

37

00:01:26,550 --> 00:01:24,560

from the unique environment of space

38

00:01:28,390 --> 00:01:26,560

the i've checked the website your

39

00:01:30,950 --> 00:01:28,400

website it says that cases is

40

00:01:33,350 --> 00:01:30,960

responsible for inciting the imagination

41

00:01:35,350 --> 00:01:33,360

of entrepreneurs and scientists

42

00:01:36,789 --> 00:01:35,360

while creating awareness of the national

43

00:01:39,030 --> 00:01:36,799

lab research

44

00:01:41,429 --> 00:01:39,040

give us a couple of examples of how you

45

00:01:43,830 --> 00:01:41,439

go about doing that certainly so one of

46

00:01:45,429 --> 00:01:43,840

the goals in creating and designating

47

00:01:46,789 --> 00:01:45,439

the us operating segment of the

48

00:01:49,830 --> 00:01:46,799

international space station as a

49

00:01:52,630 --> 00:01:49,840

national laboratory was to enable access

50

00:01:54,469 --> 00:01:52,640

for new communities of users so nasa

51
00:01:55,830 --> 00:01:54,479
obviously continues to support research

52
00:01:58,310 --> 00:01:55,840
and technology development on the

53
00:01:59,670 --> 00:01:58,320
station but cases has a portfolio which

54
00:02:01,429 --> 00:01:59,680
is slightly different than that of

55
00:02:03,910 --> 00:02:01,439
nasa's we seek out

56
00:02:05,590 --> 00:02:03,920
cust companies that have reasons for

57
00:02:07,270 --> 00:02:05,600
performing research in that unique

58
00:02:08,469 --> 00:02:07,280
environment that can benefit product

59
00:02:10,070 --> 00:02:08,479
development

60
00:02:11,990 --> 00:02:10,080
we also support companies such as

61
00:02:13,670 --> 00:02:12,000
pharmaceutical companies that utilize

62
00:02:15,030 --> 00:02:13,680
the unique aspects of living in

63
00:02:17,750 --> 00:02:15,040

microgravity

64

00:02:20,470 --> 00:02:17,760

in addition to affecting the crew

65

00:02:22,869 --> 00:02:20,480

the life living in in that environment

66

00:02:24,550 --> 00:02:22,879

also affects model organisms so there

67

00:02:26,630 --> 00:02:24,560

are opportunities for pharmaceutical

68

00:02:29,190 --> 00:02:26,640

companies to study drugs

69

00:02:31,030 --> 00:02:29,200

that combat can combat some of the

70

00:02:33,190 --> 00:02:31,040

effects of living in space environments

71

00:02:35,589 --> 00:02:33,200

such as muscle atrophy and bone mineral

72

00:02:37,509 --> 00:02:35,599

density laws things that translate as

73

00:02:39,750 --> 00:02:37,519

human diseases here on earth

74

00:02:42,470 --> 00:02:39,760

to get you to expand on that that phrase

75

00:02:44,550 --> 00:02:42,480

of model organisms we're talking about

76
00:02:46,949 --> 00:02:44,560
organisms that are being used to stand

77
00:02:49,110 --> 00:02:46,959
in for people absolutely right so there

78
00:02:51,110 --> 00:02:49,120
are some types of experiments that

79
00:02:51,910 --> 00:02:51,120
humans don't like to be test subjects

80
00:02:53,670 --> 00:02:51,920
for

81
00:02:56,229 --> 00:02:53,680
and they're also organisms that have

82
00:02:58,949 --> 00:02:56,239
much faster life cycles than humans do

83
00:03:01,190 --> 00:02:58,959
so that they can undergo a much longer

84
00:03:03,350 --> 00:03:01,200
term exposure to the microgravity

85
00:03:06,070 --> 00:03:03,360
environment in terms of their life cycle

86
00:03:08,070 --> 00:03:06,080
so we frequently use fruit flies worms

87
00:03:11,190 --> 00:03:08,080
and things like that so that we can

88
00:03:13,990 --> 00:03:11,200

learn about the effects of the life in

89

00:03:16,070 --> 00:03:14,000

microgravity environment on the biology

90

00:03:17,509 --> 00:03:16,080

of the system and those organisms

91

00:03:19,990 --> 00:03:17,519

although they're not extremely closely

92

00:03:22,309 --> 00:03:20,000

related to humans they do have genes and

93

00:03:24,630 --> 00:03:22,319

systems that behave in the same way

94

00:03:27,030 --> 00:03:24,640

and you were mentioning some of the

95

00:03:29,270 --> 00:03:27,040

different kinds of organizations that

96

00:03:31,509 --> 00:03:29,280

cases is working with a lot of that is

97

00:03:33,589 --> 00:03:31,519

commercial businesses people who are

98

00:03:35,509 --> 00:03:33,599

wanting to use the space station to

99

00:03:37,030 --> 00:03:35,519

improve their products that's exactly

100

00:03:39,830 --> 00:03:37,040

right so we

101
00:03:41,910 --> 00:03:39,840
we approach a very uh broad swath of

102
00:03:44,630 --> 00:03:41,920
interest in the united states

103
00:03:46,309 --> 00:03:44,640
we work with companies who have products

104
00:03:47,990 --> 00:03:46,319
and development or have interest in

105
00:03:50,470 --> 00:03:48,000
fundamental research and technology

106
00:03:52,550 --> 00:03:50,480
development utilizing both the shirt

107
00:03:54,949 --> 00:03:52,560
sleeve environment inside the station as

108
00:03:57,350 --> 00:03:54,959
well as access to the external

109
00:03:59,429 --> 00:03:57,360
environment outside the station we also

110
00:04:01,670 --> 00:03:59,439
have in our portfolio

111
00:04:03,910 --> 00:04:01,680
investigators who are sponsored by other

112
00:04:05,910 --> 00:04:03,920
government agencies so department of

113
00:04:08,229 --> 00:04:05,920

defense department of energy national

114

00:04:09,830 --> 00:04:08,239

institutes of health a variety of other

115

00:04:11,589 --> 00:04:09,840

government agencies who operate their

116

00:04:12,789 --> 00:04:11,599

own national labs here in the united

117

00:04:14,710 --> 00:04:12,799

states

118

00:04:16,550 --> 00:04:14,720

see the value in having access to the

119

00:04:18,390 --> 00:04:16,560

space flight environment and they simply

120

00:04:20,150 --> 00:04:18,400

can't recreate that environment in the

121

00:04:23,110 --> 00:04:20,160

national laboratories that they operate

122

00:04:25,030 --> 00:04:23,120

here on the ground a part of cases job

123

00:04:27,430 --> 00:04:25,040

is to help these people

124

00:04:29,830 --> 00:04:27,440

physically get their stuff to space

125

00:04:31,510 --> 00:04:29,840

right it is it is so

126

00:04:33,430 --> 00:04:31,520

part of our mission is enabling that

127

00:04:35,909 --> 00:04:33,440

access and we do that

128

00:04:38,150 --> 00:04:35,919

by facilitating communication between

129

00:04:39,830 --> 00:04:38,160

the researchers who are typically new to

130

00:04:41,430 --> 00:04:39,840

space they're used to being able to do

131

00:04:42,390 --> 00:04:41,440

research in the laboratory down the

132

00:04:44,070 --> 00:04:42,400

hallway

133

00:04:46,310 --> 00:04:44,080

so we put them in contact with

134

00:04:48,310 --> 00:04:46,320

implementation partners who can

135

00:04:50,870 --> 00:04:48,320

describe for them and share their

136

00:04:52,629 --> 00:04:50,880

experiences and how to do science in the

137

00:04:55,030 --> 00:04:52,639

harshness of space if they're working

138

00:04:56,710 --> 00:04:55,040

outside the station or how to package

139

00:04:59,350 --> 00:04:56,720

their biology if they want to work

140

00:05:01,510 --> 00:04:59,360

inside the station we also work closely

141

00:05:04,790 --> 00:05:01,520

with the launch providers in order to

142

00:05:06,950 --> 00:05:04,800

maximize that access to the station

143

00:05:08,550 --> 00:05:06,960

along with working with these companies

144

00:05:10,629 --> 00:05:08,560

and and the variety of different

145

00:05:13,110 --> 00:05:10,639

experiments there's an educational

146

00:05:15,029 --> 00:05:13,120

outreach component of cases his mission

147

00:05:16,629 --> 00:05:15,039

too tell me about that there is pat and

148

00:05:18,150 --> 00:05:16,639

that's one of the most exciting parts of

149

00:05:20,070 --> 00:05:18,160

our mission so every principal

150

00:05:21,830 --> 00:05:20,080

investigator that we bring on board

151
00:05:23,189 --> 00:05:21,840
through cases to have access to that

152
00:05:25,029 --> 00:05:23,199
national lab

153
00:05:28,390 --> 00:05:25,039
is also charged with helping us to

154
00:05:30,230 --> 00:05:28,400
develop a stem mission stem mission so

155
00:05:31,990 --> 00:05:30,240
we certainly recognize and acknowledge

156
00:05:34,550 --> 00:05:32,000
the excitement of working in space and

157
00:05:36,710 --> 00:05:34,560
that's a great great way to reach out to

158
00:05:38,390 --> 00:05:36,720
a new community of investigators who may

159
00:05:40,629 --> 00:05:38,400
be in kindergarten

160
00:05:42,469 --> 00:05:40,639
elementary school high school or already

161
00:05:45,189 --> 00:05:42,479
working at a university

162
00:05:47,189 --> 00:05:45,199
so we participate in a variety of formal

163
00:05:49,670 --> 00:05:47,199

education programs such as the student

164

00:05:51,189 --> 00:05:49,680

base space flight experiments program

165

00:05:53,350 --> 00:05:51,199

we work with one of the commercial

166

00:05:55,510 --> 00:05:53,360

providers nanoracks who has a very

167

00:05:57,350 --> 00:05:55,520

robust education program for middle

168

00:05:59,270 --> 00:05:57,360

school and high school level and then

169

00:06:01,029 --> 00:05:59,280

again we also engage with the companies

170

00:06:03,430 --> 00:06:01,039

the commercial entities that we bring on

171

00:06:05,270 --> 00:06:03,440

board to help them develop and support a

172

00:06:06,790 --> 00:06:05,280

stem mission because most of the

173

00:06:08,550 --> 00:06:06,800

companies we work with are truly

174

00:06:10,469 --> 00:06:08,560

interested not only in

175

00:06:12,150 --> 00:06:10,479

improving the quality of the research

176

00:06:13,430 --> 00:06:12,160

and technology development that's of

177

00:06:15,350 --> 00:06:13,440

interest to them and their product

178

00:06:18,710 --> 00:06:15,360

development they're also genuinely

179

00:06:20,710 --> 00:06:18,720

interested in being able to reach out to

180

00:06:22,870 --> 00:06:20,720

the youth and show that there are

181

00:06:24,629 --> 00:06:22,880

varieties of opportunities in that space

182

00:06:26,309 --> 00:06:24,639

environment for them as well

183

00:06:28,790 --> 00:06:26,319

is it hard to get

184

00:06:31,189 --> 00:06:28,800

these scientists or these businesses

185

00:06:32,950 --> 00:06:31,199

interested in using the space station

186

00:06:35,029 --> 00:06:32,960

it's really not that that first phone

187

00:06:36,629 --> 00:06:35,039

call uh that first communication is

188

00:06:38,790 --> 00:06:36,639

sometimes an interesting one because

189

00:06:40,790 --> 00:06:38,800

some of the uh some of the customers

190

00:06:42,550 --> 00:06:40,800

that we developed weren't aware that we

191

00:06:44,629 --> 00:06:42,560

had an international space station or

192

00:06:46,790 --> 00:06:44,639

that there was an opportunity for them

193

00:06:47,990 --> 00:06:46,800

to have access to that environment but

194

00:06:49,749 --> 00:06:48,000

once they understand what the

195

00:06:52,150 --> 00:06:49,759

capabilities are and the investments

196

00:06:54,469 --> 00:06:52,160

that we as a nation have made in

197

00:06:56,390 --> 00:06:54,479

building that laboratory and

198

00:06:59,110 --> 00:06:56,400

and completing it so that it can now

199

00:07:01,589 --> 00:06:59,120

operate truly as a national laboratory

200

00:07:03,749 --> 00:07:01,599

they become engaged very fast and

201
00:07:06,309 --> 00:07:03,759
typically it starts as a slow burn and

202
00:07:08,230 --> 00:07:06,319
then begins to grow to a big fire

203
00:07:09,909 --> 00:07:08,240
once everyone in the company realizes

204
00:07:10,629 --> 00:07:09,919
the opportunities that are available to

205
00:07:13,029 --> 00:07:10,639
them

206
00:07:15,350 --> 00:07:13,039
what's on the horizon for cases now

207
00:07:16,950 --> 00:07:15,360
it's all very good so we're certainly

208
00:07:18,870 --> 00:07:16,960
i'm glad to be here with you today on

209
00:07:21,430 --> 00:07:18,880
the anniversary of zaria you know it's

210
00:07:22,629 --> 00:07:21,440
it's hard to imagine that only 17 years

211
00:07:24,469 --> 00:07:22,639
ago the

212
00:07:26,230 --> 00:07:24,479
the first shiny object that became the

213
00:07:28,550 --> 00:07:26,240

international space station was launched

214

00:07:30,790 --> 00:07:28,560

into space but the horizon i think is

215

00:07:32,230 --> 00:07:30,800

very bright we're actively engaged with

216

00:07:34,150 --> 00:07:32,240

a variety of companies and other

217

00:07:36,550 --> 00:07:34,160

government agencies as well as academic

218

00:07:38,629 --> 00:07:36,560

institutions there's a lot of interest

219

00:07:40,790 --> 00:07:38,639

now in partnering across each of those

220

00:07:43,350 --> 00:07:40,800

diverse communities to do science in the

221

00:07:45,350 --> 00:07:43,360

international space station national lab

222

00:07:46,790 --> 00:07:45,360

good luck and and thanks for bringing us

223

00:07:49,110 --> 00:07:46,800

up to date on it thank you very much

224

00:07:51,830 --> 00:07:49,120

matt dr michael roberts is the deputy

225

00:07:53,749 --> 00:07:51,840

chief scientist for the uh for cases the

