Fiscal Year:	FY 2021	**Task Last Updated:**	FY 06/15/2021
PI Name:	Contractor, Noshir Ph.D.		
Project Title:	Composing Teams with TEAMSTaR: Tool for Evaluating and Mitigating Space Team Risk		
Division Name:	Human Research		
Program/Discipline:			
Program/Discipline--Element/Subdiscipline:			
Joint Agency Name:		**TechPort:**	Yes
Human Research Program Elements:	(1) **HFBP**:Human Factors & Behavioral Performance (IRP Rev H)		
Human Research Program Risks:	None		
Space Biology Element:	None		
Space Biology Cross-Element Discipline:	None		
Space Biology Special Category:	None		
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Comments:			
Project Type:	Ground	**Solicitation / Funding Source:**	2020 HERO 80JSC019N0001-TEAM: Team Composition-Appendix G
Start Date:	04/15/2021	**End Date:**	04/14/2024
No. of Post Docs:		**No. of PhD Degrees:**	
No. of PhD Candidates:		**No. of Master' Degrees:**	
No. of Master's Candidates:		**No. of Bachelor's Degrees:**	
No. of Bachelor's Candidates:		**Monitoring Center:**	NASA JSC
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Flight Program:			
Flight Assignment:	NOTE: End date changed to 4/14/2024 per NSSC info via L. Barnes-Moten/JSC (Ed., 7/16/21)		
Key Personnel Changes/Previous PI:			
COI Name (Institution):	Bell, Suzanne Ph.D. (NASA Johnson Space Center) DeChurch, Leslie Ph.D. (Northwestern University, Evanston) Lungeanu, Alina Ph.D. (Northwestern University, Evanston) Loerch, Linda M.S. (NASA Johnson Space Center)		
Grant/Contract No.:	80NSSC21K0925		
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Task Description:	As NASA sets its sight on more Earth-independent missions, such as Artemis missions to the Moon and on to Mars, team composition becomes a critical leverage point for mitigating risks. NASA has successfully designed crews with “the Right Stuff” for more than fifty years beginning with the Mercury and Apollo programs, then into the Shuttle period, and throughout the Skylab and International Space Station missions requiring highly specialized crews to live and work in space for extended periods of time. The key point of departure for deep space exploration is the complexity of missions and the autonomy with which the crew will work. Communication delays with support teams on Earth will necessitate that a relatively small crew take on greater responsibility for making critical decisions. This increased autonomy will occur despite the additional challenges posed by prolonged isolation and confinement and increased radiation exposure. Whereas the “Right Stuff” (Wolfe, 1979) emphasized the requisite individual characteristics, deep space missions also require the “Right Combination” of team members. With that as a backdrop, this project develops and validates TEAMSTaR (Tool for Evaluating And Mitigating Space Team Risks), a team composition decision support system, that can be used by stakeholders (e.g., schedule decision-makers) to predict how a hypothetical team’s social relations are likely to evolve and influence crew performance over the course of a mission. The TEAMSTaR will enable decision-makers to evaluate composition scenarios for an entire set of teams, for single-member replacements, and/or for subsets of teams. To do this, we first leverage insights and data from recent NASA-funded team composition studies and thoughtfully refine and extend our agent-based models to include relevant input characteristics and their ability to predict team outcomes including team performance. We next conduct virtual experiments and gather stakeholder input to inform the development of TEAMSTaR, a team composition decision support system that utilizes insights from our updated agent-based models (ABMs) to enable real-time (or close to real-time) decision-making. Finally, we validate TEAMSTaR as a decision-making tool in short and long-term isolated, confined, and controlled environments. This project accomplishes five aims. Aim 1) Refine agent-based models looking at relevant input characteristics and their ability to predict team outcomes, including team performance. Aim 2) Identify and elaborate the scientific rationale for attributes used within the model, identifying factors known to affect crew functioning, crew member behavior, emergent characteristics that arise during team task completion. Aim 3) Develop and validate a Team Composition decision support system and user interface. Aim 4) Validate the refined model using a software prototype in at least one extended duration, isolated, and confined analog. Aim 5) Provide modeling and software prototypes that meet NASA Standard 7009a. With an eye toward the future of deep space exploration, this project leverages, and indeed advances, state of the art computational techniques to predict crew performance and to identify points of leverage in terms of team composition and task scheduling to optimize individual and team performance. Reference: Wolfe, T. (1979). The Right Stuff. New York: Farrar, Straus and Giroux.
Rationale for HRP Directed Research:	
Research Impact/Earth Benefits:	
Task Progress:	New project for FY2021.
Bibliography Type:	Description: (Last Updated: 03/29/2024)