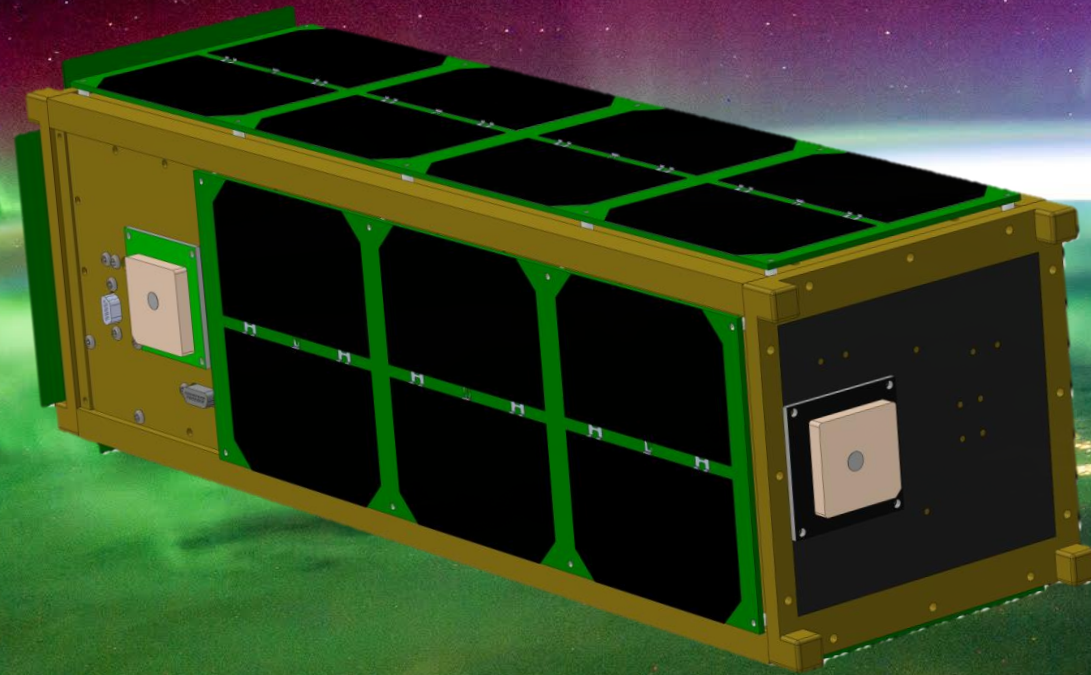


# UNITE CubeSat

UNDERGRADUATE • NANO • IONOSPHERIC • TEMPERATURE • EXPLORER

USI BOARD OF TRUSTEES









# Mission Objectives



- **The objectives of the UNITE 3U CubeSat mission are to:**
  - **Conduct space weather measurements** in the lower ionosphere using a Langmuir plasma probe.
  - **Measure exterior and interior temperatures** of the spacecraft for comparison to a thermal model.
  - **Track orbital decay** of the spacecraft in the lower ionosphere and during final hours of re-entry.
- Primary mission, beginning January 2020, is conducted in the lower ionosphere. Data is increasingly valuable as the spacecraft descends towards disintegration.

# UNITE CONCEPT OF OPERATIONS

## A. DEPLOYMENT & FIRST WEEK MODE

- Approximately 7 days
- Deployment from ISS
- Battery: Initially Low or Dead
- Moderate instrument sampling rate

## B. INTERIM & STABILIZATION MODES

- Approximately 375 days
- De-tumble/passive stabilization
- Lowest data transmission rate
- Data used to track spacecraft and check instruments
- Confirm ram orientation
- Battery: Fully charged before 300 km

## C. SCIENCE MODE

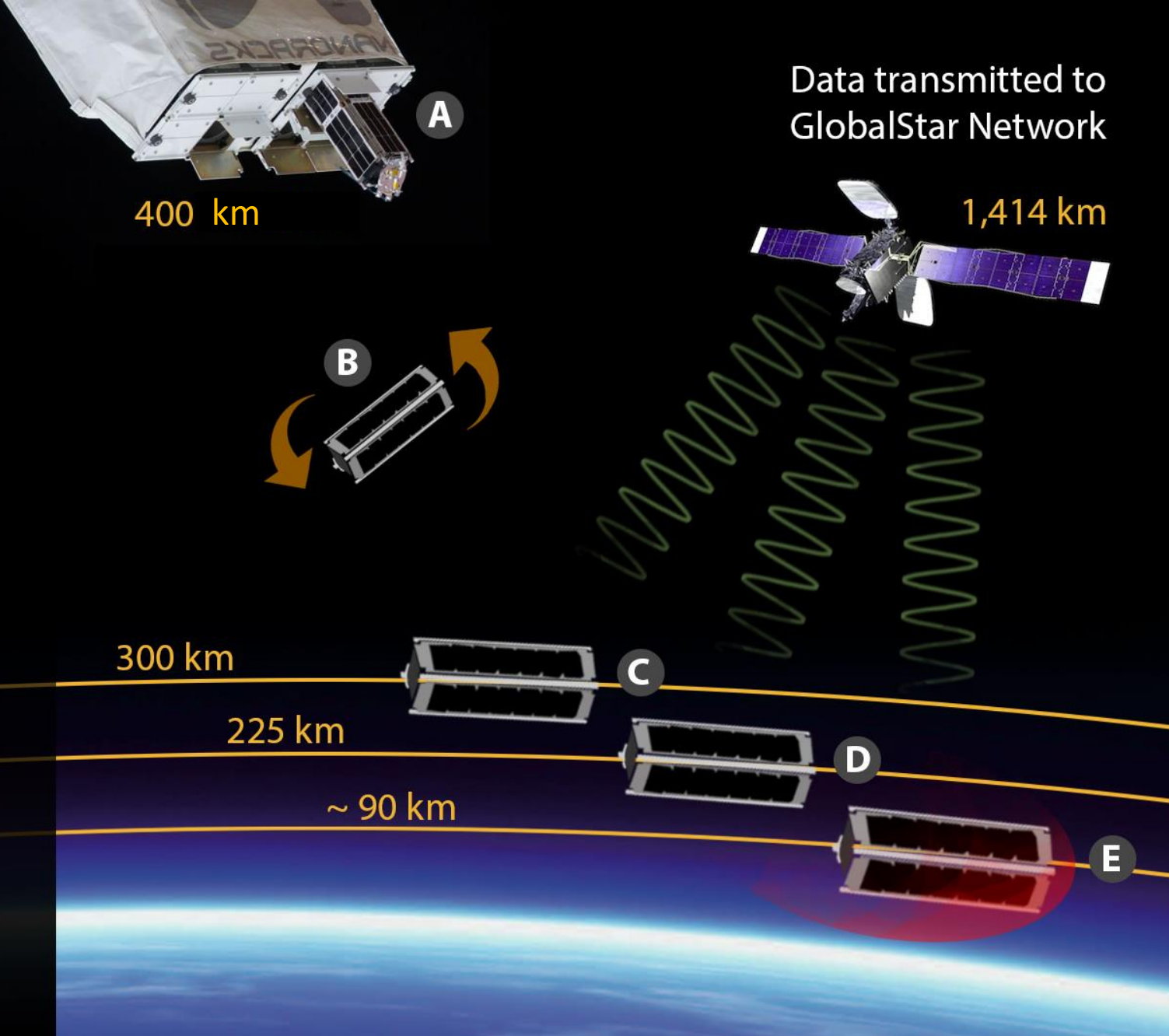
- Approximately 20 days
- All instruments sampling

## D. RE-ENTRY MODE

- Approximately 5 days
- Increased sampling of all instruments

## E. BURNUP

- Approximately 1 day





## Launch Details

- UNITE will be launched from Cape Canaveral, Florida
- UNITE's launch vehicle is the SpX-16 Dragon and Falcon 9
- UNITE's launch date is December 4<sup>th</sup>, 2018 on a Commercial Resupply mission
- UNITE's deployment date from the ISS is 1-3 months after the launch date







# UNITE CubeSat Team



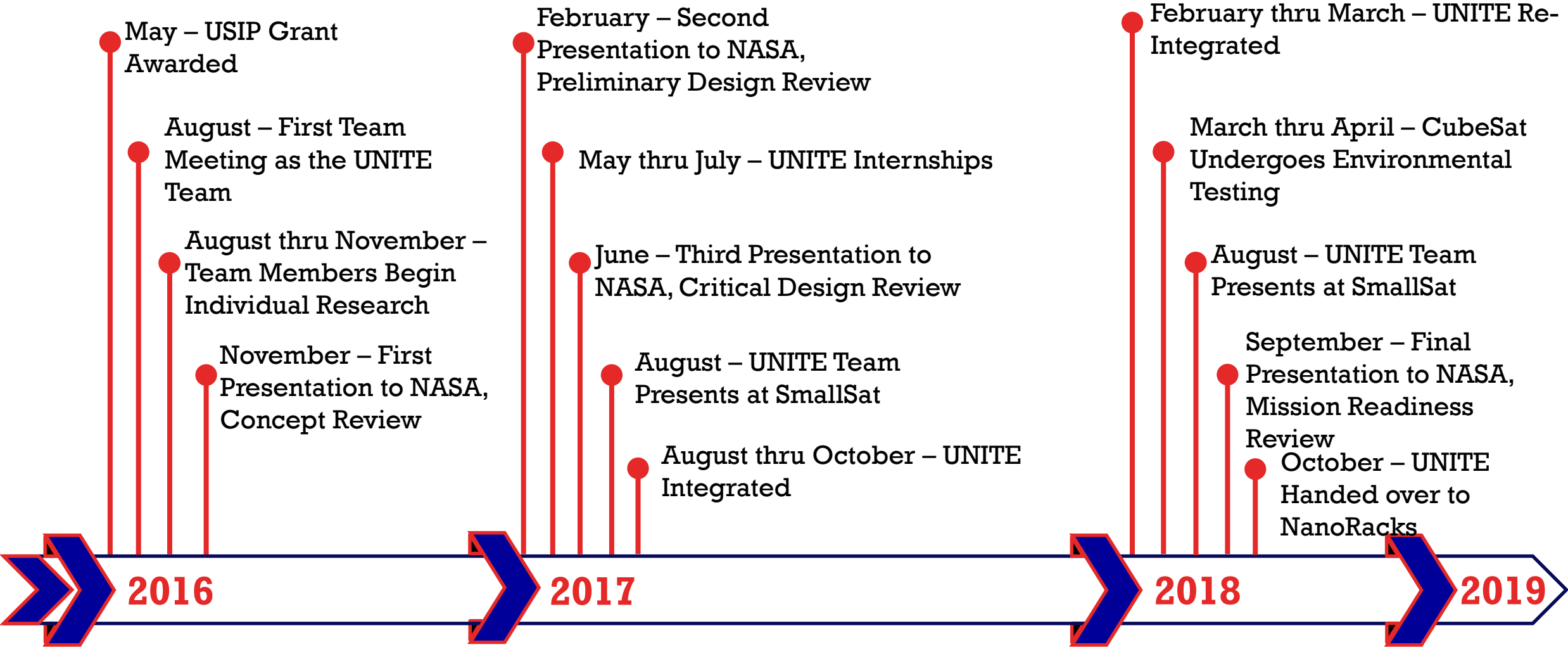


# USI'S CUBESAT EXPERIENCE

“Rocketing from the beginning to the current state”

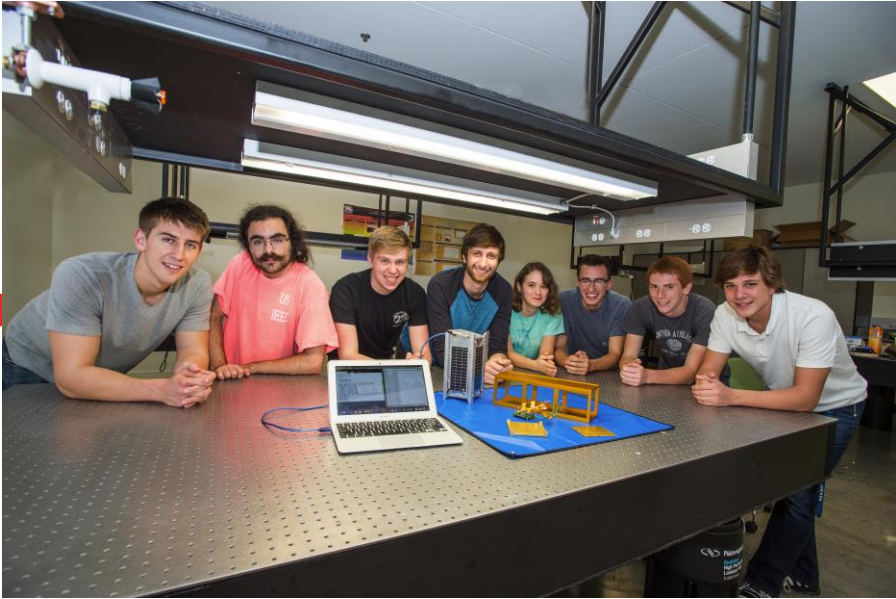


# Project Timeline





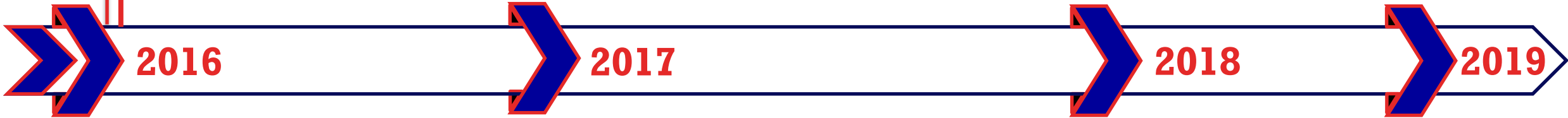
# Project Timeline



May – USIP Grant Awarded



August – First Team Meeting as the UNITE Team



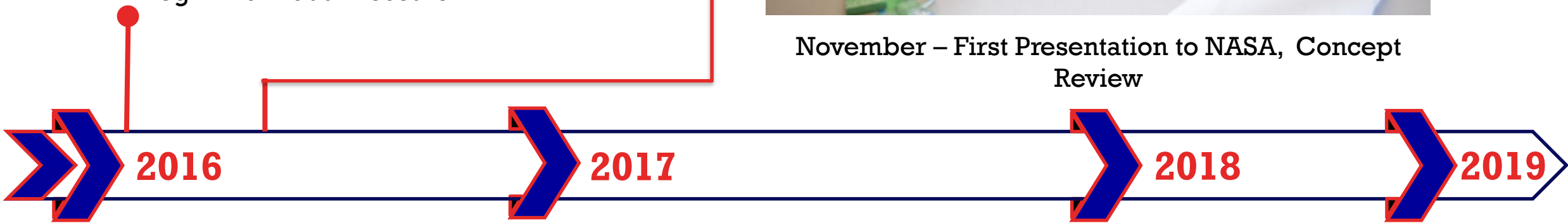
# Project Timeline



August thru November – Team Members Begin Individual Research



November – First Presentation to NASA, Concept Review

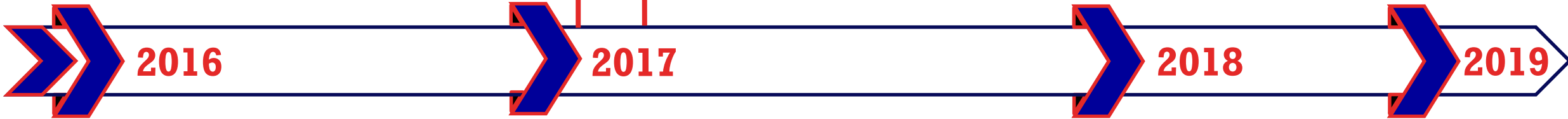


# Project Timeline



February – Second Presentation to NASA, Preliminary Design Review

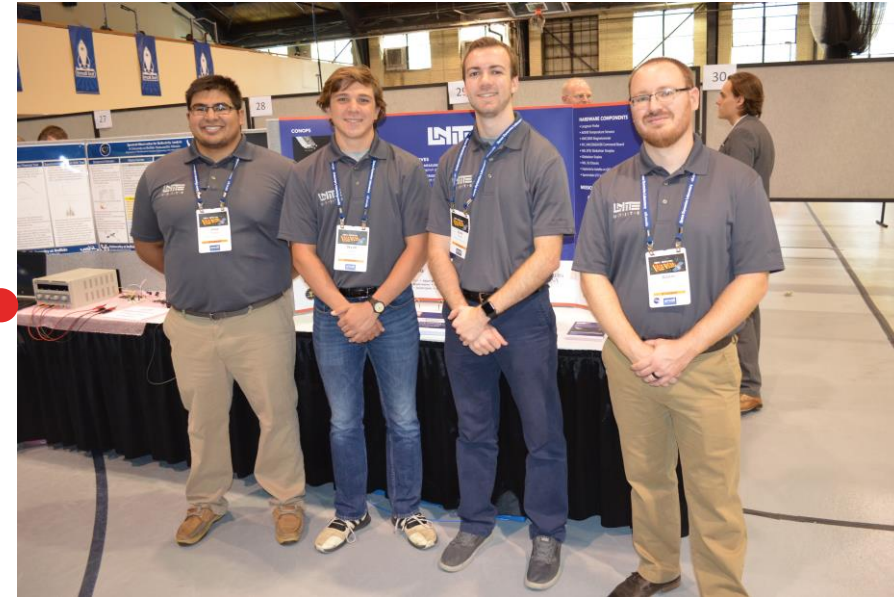
May thru July – UNITE Internships



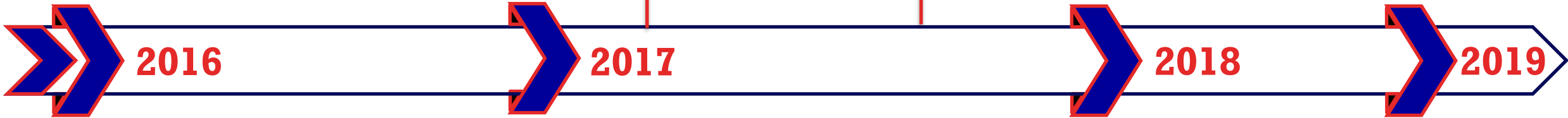




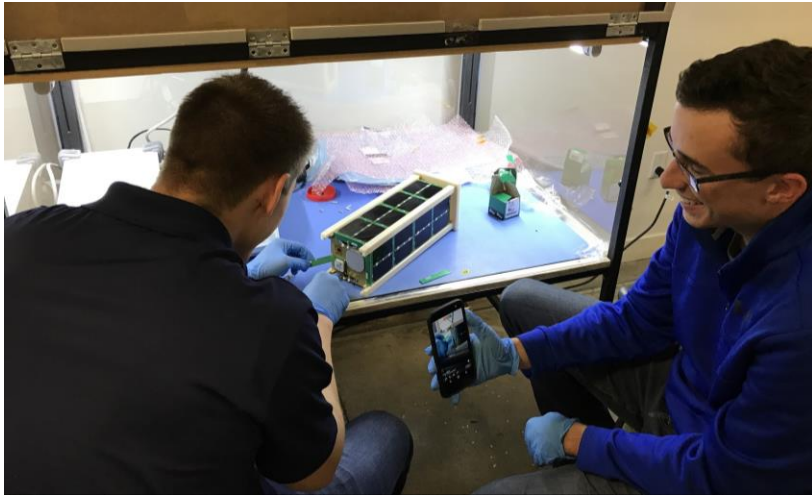
June – Third Presentation to NASA, Critical Design Review



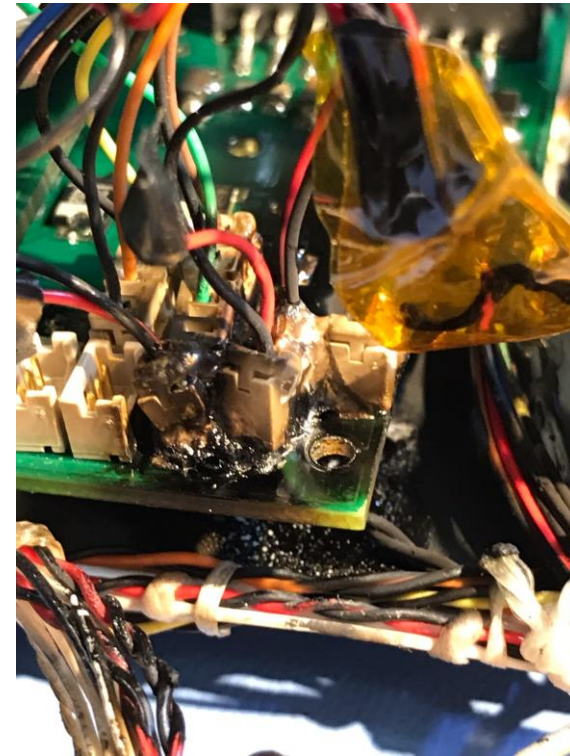
August – UNITE Team Presents at SmallSat



# Project Timeline



August thru October – UNITE Integrated

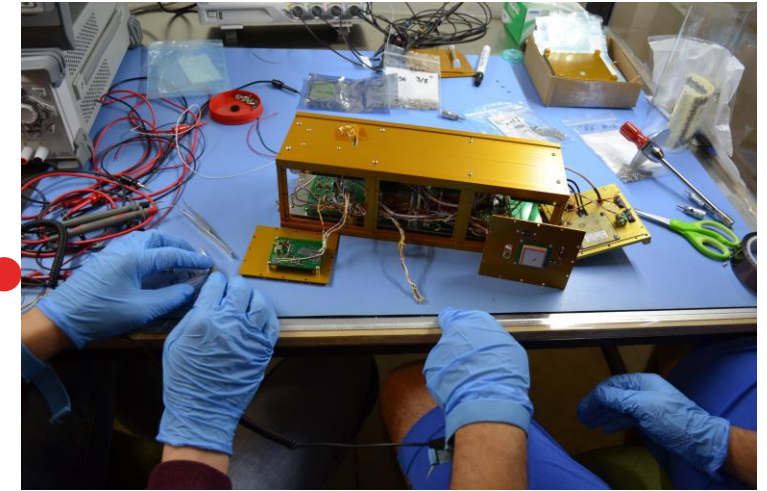
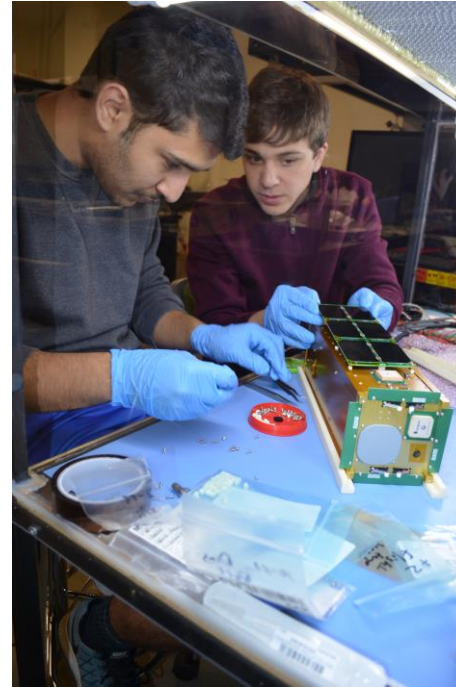
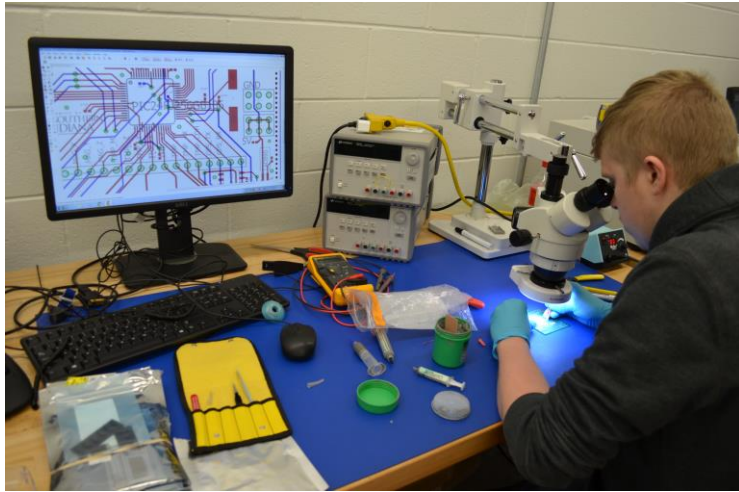


October – UNITE had a small Electrical Fire

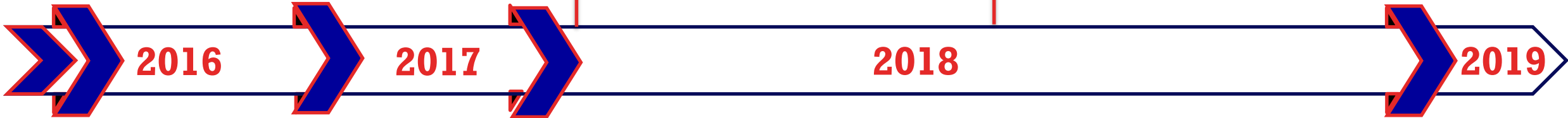




# Project Timeline

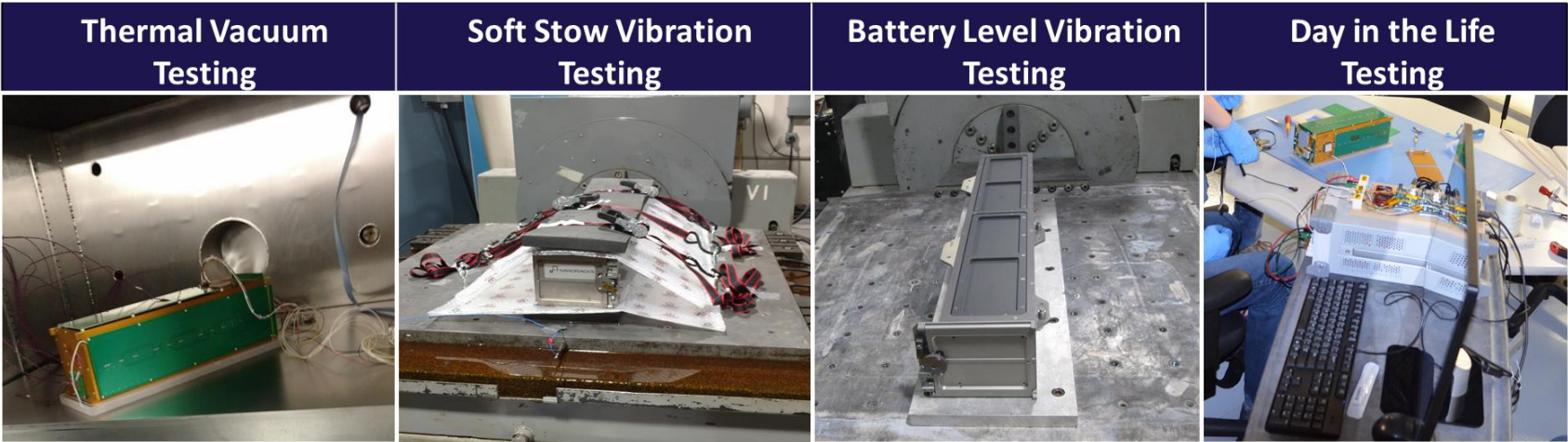


February thru March – UNITE  
Re-Integrated



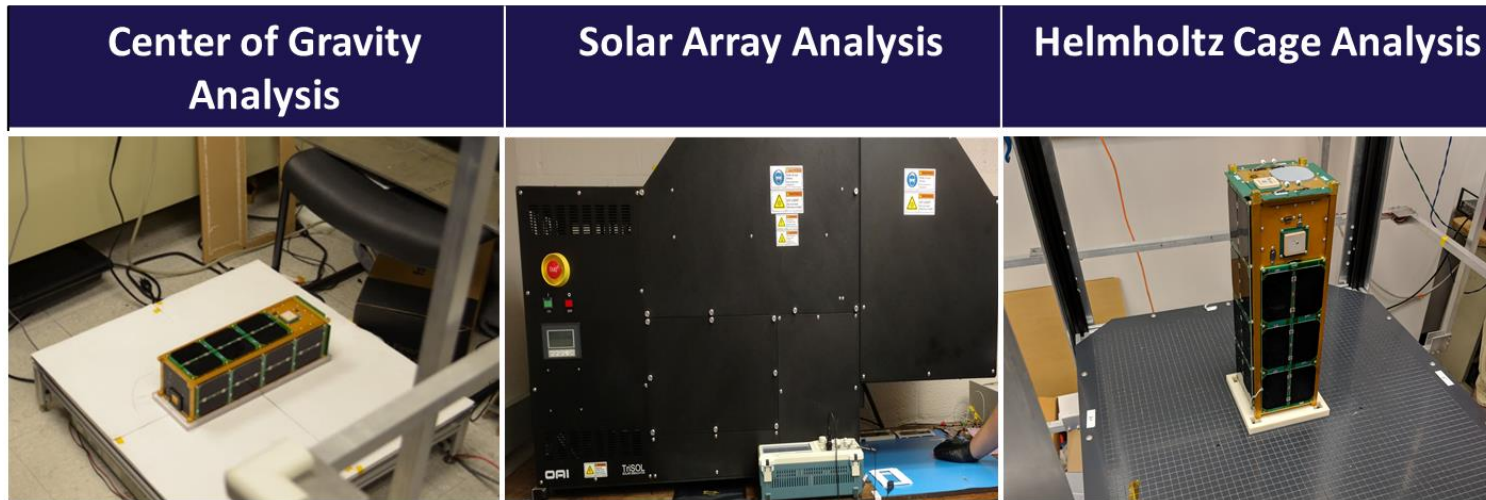


# Project Timeline

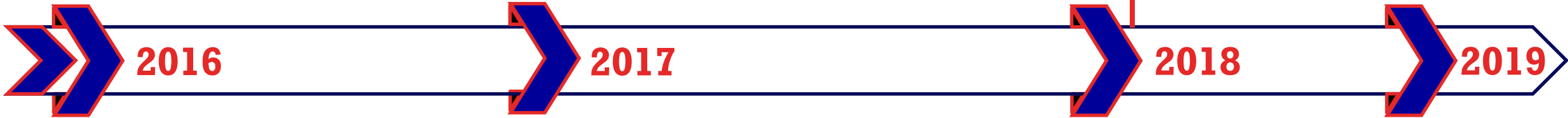


March thru April – CubeSat Undergoes Environmental Testing



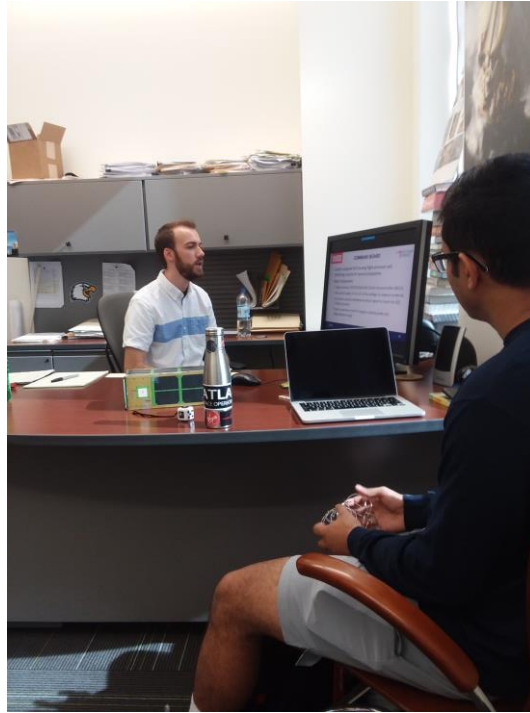
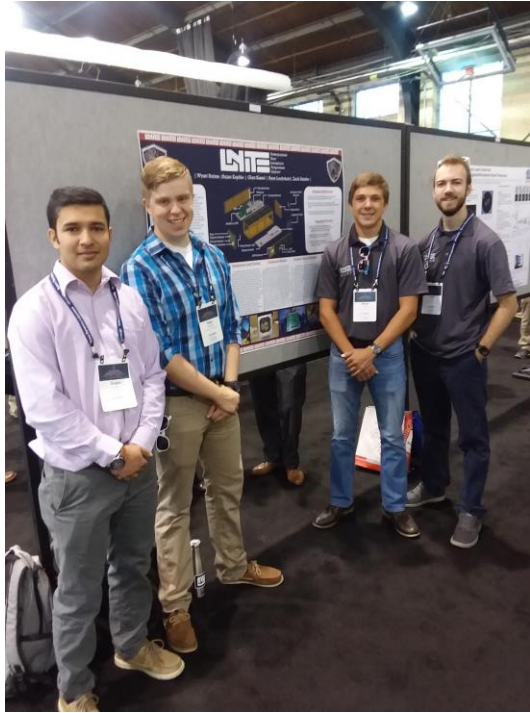


March thru April – CubeSat Undergoes Environmental Testing

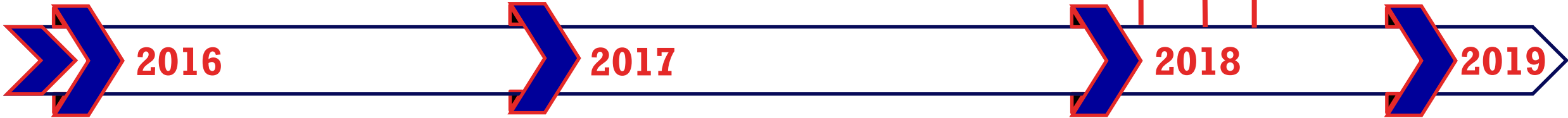




# Project Timeline



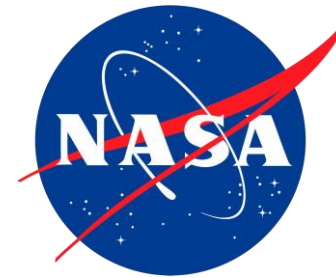
- August – UNITE Team Presents at SmallSat
- September – Final Presentation to NASA, Mission Readiness Review
- October 2018 – UNITE Handed over to NanoRacks





# Project Summary

- \$200,000 grant from NASA through USIP
- 2+ years from proposal submittal to current state
- 15 students have worked on the project
- Extremely unique opportunity for students
- First satellite built by a public institution in Indiana



THANK YOU