Roger McNamara, Chair
AIAA-Rocky Mountain Section

March 4, 2014

Dear Mr. McNamara:

We are writing to you today to submit a proposal to join the Rocky Mountain section of the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics (AIAA-RM) on behalf of our organization, the Colorado School of Mines Astronomy and Space Society (MASS). We as members of MASS would like to become an AIAA-RM student chapter, and therefore would like to elaborate for you the merits of our organization. In recent years, our membership in MASS has been steadily increasing, and we have been working very hard as a leadership board to ensure that our society succeeds and that our members have access to enriching opportunities. By becoming a student chapter of AIAA-RM, we believe we would be able to bring even more opportunities to our organization while promoting the overall goals of AIAA.

As an AIAA student chapter, we intend to increase the number of research and design endeavors we take on, so that we can expand our knowledge base and involvement in the aerospace industry. As an organization, MASS is determined to become an AIAA student chapter, and we are presently finalizing our formal application. Due to our dedication to becoming an active chapter, we would like to request funding from AIAA-RM for our inaugural year to fund various expenses. We will partially apply these funds to project initiatives within MASS. Projects we have been considering include conducting research via High-Altitude Balloons, participating in AIAA's Design-Build-Fly competition, or contributing to NASA's CubeSat Launch Initiative. Our funding and membership interest will help determine which project we decide to pursue, but we will certainly utilize a portion of the funding for our club's engineering projects. We will also use these funds to help fund our monthly meetings, field trips, and stargazing nights. Finally, we will provide discounted AIAA memberships to our members to increase our organization size even further. We believe all of the aforementioned pursuits are both worthwhile and conducive to AIAA goals, and we would thus like to formally request $1,500 for our inaugural year as an AIAA-RM student chapter.

We hope we have made a convincing case for our organization, and we hope you will consider accepting our proposal for funding the pursuits of the Mines Astronomy and Space Society, as we truly are excited to see Mines become a more active player in the local aerospace industry. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact our Vice President, Holden Steppan at hsteppan@mines.edu. You can also contact the MASS faculty advisor, Dr. Angel Abbud-Madrid at aabbudma@mines.edu. He is very knowledgeable about the merits of our organization, and you can direct any questions to him, as well. We look forward to joining AIAA and its Rocky Mountain section as a student branch– it has been long anticipated by our club! Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

MASS

The Mines Astronomy and Space Society
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