Taylor Davitz

**Award**: Elijah Balloon Payload; $3000.00

**Advisor:** Dr. William Farrow

**Research Topic:** The Elijah Project -- 2017 High Altitude Balloon Project

**Abstract:** The 2017 Wisconsin Space Grant Consortium Elijah High-Altitude Balloon Launch Team was comprised of one student from Lawrence University, two students from the Milwaukee School of Engineering, and one student from the University of Wisconsin – Fox Valley. This year, three members of the team had experience with high altitude balloon launches due to previous participation on either the Elijah Payload or Launch Team, or both. A training session was hosted by Dr. Farrow to familiarize or refresh the team with the physical setup of a launch train as well as how to run track predictions and how to read the jet stream charts. Launches were planned and carried out for the Elijah High-Altitude Balloon Payload Team. This launch was successful, reaching a peak altitude of over 115,000 ft (35 km) above mean sea level.

**Biography:** Taylor Davitz is a mechanical engineering student at the Milwaukee School of Engineering, located in  
Milwaukee, Wisconsin. From an early age, he found his life passion on engineering and has been  
pursuing it ever since. During his first year at MSOE he got an internship working for WSGC on the Elijah Balloon Payload team. After his internship ended, he moved onto his second year of college and began working with the Project Lead the Way program on campus. During this year, he created and headed a student outreach network and program, that is continuing to this day. Which he had to give up for a year to attend a study abroad program in Germany. Currently he resides in Germany to continue studying engineering, but will return to MSOE in the summer season.

**Congressional District:** 4

**Congressional Representative:** Gwen Moore