



**SAINT LOUIS
UNIVERSITY**
MADRID

Silvia Bayón

'01 BS in AENG (*Summa Cum Laude*)

'02 MS in AENG

Silvia has excelled in all facets of her career – from her first courses on our campus to her current work at the European Space Agency.



Silvia began pursuing her goal to work in the space field as an undergraduate, when she interned at Iberia as a Trainee Engineer in the Department of Aircraft Modifications and Specifications. Upon graduation, she received grants from NASA: the first to work as a Research Assistant in the field of Airport to Spaceport transition, the second to pursue a Masters in Aerospace Engineering and conduct research on future missions to Mars. Her graduate thesis on the “Design, Transportation and Operation of a Food Supply Unit for the First Manned Mission to Mars” passed with distinction and was awarded second place at a national competition held at the Kennedy Space Center. During her studies Silvia also served as a teaching assistant for Astrodynamics, Orbital Mechanics, and Aircraft & Spacecraft Design courses.

After graduation Silvia spent four more months at Parks College conducting research and developing tools for their structures laboratory. She was hired by the European Space Agency (ESA) as a Young Graduate Trainee in the Concurrent Design Facility to perform feasibility studies of future missions, and was quickly promoted to system engineer.

Following a few years of work in the Concurrent Design Facility, Silvia was hired to work on the ExoMars Project of the European Space Agency (ESA). In her role as Systems Engineer, she followed, among other activities, the development of the Trace Gas Orbiter (now operating in orbit around Mars) and its interfaces with the launch vehicle. She worked on this ambitious Mars mission from its conception through its development, launch and in-orbit operations, obtaining extensive experience on the development of a mission to the red planet. She is often sought to speak at media events and has done interviews with national Spanish newspapers, radio and TV stations. She enjoys educating others about her work and presented to students on our campus in 2009 on the ExoMars mission and employment opportunities at the European Space Agency.

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Since 2017 Silvia has worked at the Planetary Missions section of ESA's Science Future Missions Department, managing technology development activities for the upcoming missions planned as part of the Science Directorate. Silvia lives in The Netherlands with her husband and her two daughters. She enjoys travelling, skiing and scuba diving in her free time.