

## Greetings from Your Planetary Sciences Section Leadership!

Welcome to the AGU (virtual) Fall Meeting!! This has been a challenging year for everyone, and we look forward to the next in-person AGU, hopefully 2021.

We congratulate our new Planetary Section Fellows, Janice Bishop, Bill McKinnon, and Glen Orton, as well as all other newly elected AGU Fellows. Please remember to nominate your colleagues next year.

December 31 marks the departure of the current committee. Our new elected committee will be:

Michael Mischna (President)  
Paul Byrne (President-Elect)  
Jennifer Whitten (Secretary)

Rosaly Lopes will become Past President. We bid farewell to David Williams as Secretary (see his message below) and Sarah Stewart as Past President.

Again, we'd like to take this opportunity to thank our corporate sponsors, Ball and Lockheed Martin. Your generous and continued support is deeply appreciated.



We will "see" you all at Fall AGU. Stay safe.

Rosaly Lopes, President  
Michael Mischna, President-Elect  
David Williams, Secretary  
Sam Birch, Early Career representative  
Ashley Schoenfeld, Student representative  
Sarah Stewart, Past President

## Note from the Secretary

This newsletter is my last one as your 2019-2020 Section Secretary, and I'll be handing the reins of Section Secretary over to Jennifer Whitten of Tulane University, who assumes the job on January 1, 2021. It has been my pleasure to serve all of you over the last two years, working on the Fall Meeting Program Committee and helping to organize our sessions, and well as assembling these newsletters. I wish the new leadership team much success in the coming year!

Sincerely,  
Dave Williams, Arizona State University

## Upcoming Deadlines & Events

For the latest Planetary Sciences updates and events visit the section calendar.

Upcoming Deadlines (**Delays because of COVID-19 Coronavirus National Emergency in RED**)

- ROSES-2020: Solar System Workings, Step-2 proposals: Due January 29, 2021.
- ROSES-2020: Planetary Major Equipment & Facilities: Stand Alone, Step-2 proposals: **Due February 5, 2021.**
- ROSES-2020: COLDTech: Autonomy, Comm., and Radiation-hard Devices, Step-2 proposals: **Due February 19, 2021.**
- ROSES-2020: Lunar Data Analysis, Step-2 proposals: **Due February 26, 2021.**

Upcoming Conferences (2020) (**All conferences made virtual because of COVID-19**)

- **Dec 7-11:** Fall AGU Meeting [**Virtual Meeting**]
- **Jan 28-Feb 4, 2021:** 43<sup>rd</sup> COSPAR Scientific Assembly [**Virtual Meeting**]
- **Mar 15-19, 2021:** 52<sup>nd</sup> LPSC [**Virtual Meeting**]
- **Apr 25-30, 2021:** EGU General Assumbly 2021 [**Virtual Meeting**]

## Planetary Sciences Announcements/Updates

### #1) FIRST MERCURY SCIENCE AND EXPLORATION NEWSLETTER, RELEASED NOVEMBER 2020

The Mercury Exploration Assessment Group (MExAG) is circulating the first issue of "The Mercury Newsletter." This new quarterly community newsletter can be accessed online at:

<https://www.lpi.usra.edu/mexag/newsletter/>

In this newsletter, we introduce MExAG and its Steering Committee and highlight Mercury science news and upcoming meetings.

Please send your Mercury community announcements and calendar items for inclusion in the newsletter to the MExAG Steering Committee at [mexag.sc@gmail.com](mailto:mexag.sc@gmail.com).

## **#2) NASA EXPANDS PLANET CONTRACT TO ALL RESEARCHERS**

NASA has expanded their subscription with Planet to provide access to Planet imagery to all researchers receiving funding from NASA for their work. Planet acquires near-daily coverage of the entire landmass of the Earth at 3–5 m through its constellation of ~150 satellites, totalling over 13 TB of imagery downlinked every day. Through the agreement with NASA, all NASA-funded researchers can access imagery from the PlanetScope constellation (subject to 30 day latency unless otherwise approved by NASA), as well as the RapidEye 6.5 m archive. Each user is granted an initial 5 million sq km quota, with exceptions made on a case-by-case basis at the discretion of NASA.

For more information on this program and instructions on how to gain access, please visit the NASA Commercial SmallSat Data Acquisition Program (CSDAP) website:

<https://earthdata.nasa.gov/esds/csdap/faq-commercial-data#planet>

For any university-based researchers interested in Planet data access but not funded by NASA, data access is available through the [Planet Education and Research Program](#). The Basic program provides free access to 5,000 sq km of PlanetScope and RapidEye imagery per month per user. For larger scale access, departmental and campus licenses are also available.

For any questions about data access through Planet's NASA or Education and Research Programs, contact Dr. Tanya Harrison at [tanya.harrison@federal.planet.com](mailto:tanya.harrison@federal.planet.com).