



## February 2018 Newsletter

**\*\*The Planetary Sciences executive board is looking for volunteers to serve as leaders in the section. Please see the notice under 'Executive Announcements' below.\*\***

### Upcoming Deadlines & Events:

#### Upcoming Deadlines

- February 15, 2018: Abstract deadline for [Mercury: Current and Future Science of the Innermost Planet Meeting](#)
- March 7, 2018: Abstract deadline for [Ocean Worlds 3: Water-Silicate Interactions](#)
- April 4, 2018: Abstract deadline for [Mars Workshop on Amazonian and Present Day Climate](#)
- April 5, 2018: Abstract deadline for [Cryovolcanism in the Solar System](#)
- April 6, 2018: Regular abstract deadline/Early Bird Registration for [International Venus Conference 2018](#)

#### Upcoming Conferences

- February 17-18, 2018: [Women in Planetary Science and Exploration Conference](#), Toronto, Canada
- February 21-22, 2018: [Outer Planets Assessment Group \(OPAG\) Meeting](#), Hampton, VA
- February 27-28, 2018: [From Mars Express to ExoMars](#), Madrid, Spain
- February 27-March 1, 2018: [Deep Space Gateway Science Workshop](#), Denver, CO
- March 18, 2018: [Planetary Science Deep Space SmallSat Studies Workshop](#), The Woodlands, TX
- March 19-23, 2018: [49<sup>th</sup> Lunar and Planetary Science Conference](#), The Woodlands, TX

- April 3-5, 2018: [Mars Exploration Program Analysis Group \(MEPAG\) Meeting](#), Washington, DC
- April 8-13, 2018: [European Geosciences Union General Assembly](#), Vienna, Austria
- April 12-13, 2018: [Southeastern Sectional Meeting of the Geological Society of America](#), Knoxville, TN
- April 25-27, 2018: [2<sup>nd</sup> International Mars Sample Return Conference](#), Berlin, Germany
- May 1-3, 2018: [Mercury: Current and Future Science of the Innermost Planet Meeting](#), Columbia, MD
- May 21-24, 2018: [Ocean Worlds 3: Water-Silicate Interactions](#), Houston, TX
- June 3-8, 2018: [15<sup>th</sup> Asia Oceania Geosciences Society](#), Honolulu, HI
- June 5-7, 2018: [Cryovolcanism in the Solar System](#), Houston, TX
- June 18-22, 2018: [Mars Workshop on Amazonian and Present Day Climate](#), Lakewood, CO
- July 14-22, 2018: [42<sup>nd</sup> COSPAR Scientific Assembly](#), Pasadena, CA
- August 27-30, 2018: [3<sup>rd</sup> Comparative Climatology of Terrestrial Planets](#), Houston, TX
- September 11-14, 2018: [International Venus Conference 2018](#), Niseko, Japan

## Executive Announcements:

- **PLANETARY SCIENCE SECTION LEADERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES**

The Planetary Sciences section is looking to expand the number of volunteers who help to lead and operate the various section activities throughout the year. If you are interested in serving your research community, and the AGU, please submit a notice of interest to the section Secretary, Michael Mischna, at [michael.a.mischna@jpl.nasa.gov](mailto:michael.a.mischna@jpl.nasa.gov) with the following information:

- Name
- Job and Employer
- The position(s) you are interested in from the list below
- A brief outline explaining your interest in the positions selected.

The positions will remain open until filled.

- **Fall Meeting Program Committee Member**

In this position, you will be responsible for planning the Planetary Sciences activities for the AGU Fall Meeting. This includes approving and merging sessions submitted by the community, determining poster vs. oral sessions, identifying special session formats, approving sessions for the Union schedule, all while ensuring diversity across disciplines and remaining within the Planetary Science section session allocation. It further involves organizing the final schedule of sessions for the Fall Meeting, and arranging other relevant Town Hall and prize lectures. Regular interaction with session conveners and chairs leading up to the Fall Meeting is likely. Your obligation includes ~20-30 hours over the course of the year, plus three days each in May and September to participate in Fall Meeting Program Committee activities. You will work in a team of three Planetary Science members, including the section Secretary, for a term of 2-3 years. It is anticipated that at least a portion, if not all, of your AGU Fall Meeting registration will be compensated for your involvement.

- **Outstanding Student Paper Awards Coordinator**

In this position, you will be responsible for organizing the Outstanding Student Paper Awards (OSPA) activities for the section, including working with session liaisons to recruit judges, and encouraging section members to register as judges and submit scores. Regular emails should go out to the section and registered judges reminding them of their upcoming activities, and seeking 100% coverage of all student papers. You will also be responsible for choosing the section's OSPA winners. You will work alongside one other coordinator in this role, along with the section Secretary, with a term of 2 years. Your time commitment will be ~20-30 hours over the course of the year, largely between the months of October and January. It is anticipated that a portion of your AGU Fall Meeting registration will be compensated for your involvement.

- **Planetary Sciences Honors and Recognition Committee**

In this position, for which one must already be an AGU Fellow, you will be responsible for reviewing nominations for the Planetary Science section prizes (including the Whipple Award and Greeley Award) and selecting, along with the Executive Board, the award winners. You will also be responsible for reviewing all Planetary Science nominations for AGU Fellows, making a recommendation to the AGU Honors and Recognition Committee. You will work in a team of ~7 on the committee, with a term of 3 years. Your time commitment will be ~20-30 hours over the course of the year, largely between the months of March and June.

- **Planetary Sciences Nominations Committee**

In this role, you will actively seek out nominees for Executive Committee positions (including, but not limited to President-Elect, Secretary, Student Representative). Your responsibilities will be to identify no more than two candidates for each position

from all submitted nominations to run in the section election. You will also be tasked with identifying candidates and soliciting nominations for the two Planetary Sciences section awards (the Whipple and Greeley awards). Much of your responsibility will be reaching out to the community and encouraging them to prepare nomination packages on behalf of worthy colleagues. The committee will be made up of four members, with terms varying from 2-4 years. Your time commitment is variable, but will likely be ~15-20 hours over the course of the year, primarily between the months of January and March.

- **FALL MEETING OSPA WINNERS**

Congratulations to the four Planetary Sciences winners of the Fall Meeting Outstanding Student Paper Award!

- **Daniela Bolrão**, Swiss Federal Institute of Technology (ETH), Zurich, “Numerical Simulations of Melting-Crystallisation Processes at the Boundaries Between Magma Oceans and Solid Mantle”
- **Christine Ray**, University of Texas at San Antonio, “Oxidation in Enceladus’s Ocean”
- **Kimberly Morales**, University of Southern California, “Analyzing Surface Features on Icy Satellites Using a New Two-Layer Analogue Model”
- **Kimberly Moore**, Harvard University, “Analysis of Juno Magnetometer Data: Use of an Elastic Net to Probe Small-Scale Dynamo Structure”

- **FALL MEETING ON-DEMAND**

Presentations from the 2017 Fall Meeting are now available on-demand on the [AGU YouTube Channel](#). Over 80 sessions, and 130+ hours of content are now available, including keynote speakers, Union and prize lectures and more!

- **AGU HONORS NOMINATIONS NOW OPEN**

The website for the 2018 Honors program is now open. Please consider nominating your deserving colleagues for one of the many Union Medals, Awards and Prizes, or as an AGU Fellow. More information about the nomination process can be found on the [Honors Program webpage](#).

## Planetary Science Notices

- **PLUTO AFTER NEW HORIZONS CONFERENCE**

The dates for the international science conference on the Pluto system and the Kuiper Belt have been moved to July 12-16, 2019. Please mark your calendars accordingly!

Unfortunately, these new dates span a weekend, but that was unavoidable owing to conflicts with two other major conferences (a lunar conference coinciding with the 50th anniversary of Apollo 11 and the Ninth International Conference on Mars).

There will be a reception commemorating the 4th anniversary of the Pluto flyby during the evening of July 14th.

The venue remains the same: The Johns Hopkins University Applied Physics Laboratory in Laurel, MD, USA.

This conference will provide an opportunity to summarize our understanding of the Pluto system and the Kuiper belt following the New Horizons encounters with Pluto and 2014 MU69.

Contributions spanning all relevant research on the Kuiper belt, including both observations and theory, will be solicited.

The conference will also serve as a nucleus for a forthcoming volume "Pluto After New Horizons" in the University of Arizona Space Science Series. With a projected 2020 publication date, this new book will be the successor to "Pluto-Charon" published in 1997.

A registration website with further details will be set up this summer, approximately one year prior to the conference.

Again, please put this conference on your calendar and join us at the Kossiakoff Center at APL in mid-July 2019!

With best regards,

Hal Weaver (JHU-APL), Alan Stern (SwRI), Rick Binzel (MIT)

(on behalf of the SOC)

For further information, contact [hal.weaver@jhuapl.edu](mailto:hal.weaver@jhuapl.edu)

- **2018 NASA PLANETARY SCIENCE SUMMER SCHOOL**

NASA is now accepting applications – from science and engineering post-docs, recent PhDs, doctoral students, engineering students within 6-9 months of completion of their master's degree but not planning to pursue a PhD degree, and junior faculty – for its 30<sup>th</sup> annual Planetary Science Summer Seminar, which will be held August 6-10, 2018 at the Jet Propulsion Laboratory in Pasadena, Calif.

During the program and pre-session webinars, student teams will carry out the equivalent of an early mission concept study, prepare a proposal authorization presentation, present it to a review board, and receive feedback. By the end of the session, students will have a clearer understanding of the life cycle of a space mission; relationships between mission design, cost, and schedule; and the tradeoffs necessary to stay within cost and schedule while preserving the quality of science.

Applications are due April 2, 2018. Partial financial support is available for a limited number of individuals. Further information is available at <http://psss.jpl.nasa.gov>

- **TENURE TRACK PLANETARY SCIENCES FACULTY POSITION AT CALTECH**

The Division of Geological and Planetary Sciences at the California Institute of Technology is seeking outstanding applicants for a tenure-track faculty position in planetary science at the assistant professor level. We are especially interested in individuals whose research complements that in the Division, which covers the full spectrum of the Earth and planetary sciences. We are particularly interested in applicants with solar system-focused research programs in planetary geophysics/geology, planetary atmospheric sciences, or small bodies research, but those in other sub-disciplines will be considered. Review will begin March 16, 2018.

For more details and to apply for the position, visit <https://applications.caltech.edu/job/ps>

- **NASA SEEKING VOLUNTEER REVIEWERS**

NASA's Science Mission Directorate (SMD) is seeking subject matter experts to serve as mail-in and/or panel reviewers of proposals to ROSES and other SMD solicitations. Just follow the links below to the volunteer review forms and click the boxes to indicate the topics in which you consider yourself to be a subject matter expert. If your skills match our needs for that review, we will contact you to discuss scheduling.

We are currently seeking reviewers for:

- [Advancing Collaborative Connections for Earth System Science \(ACCESS\)](#)
- [Astrophysics Data Analysis](#)
- [Astrophysics Research and Analysis](#)
- [Earth Surface and Interior and Space Geodesy Programs](#)
- [Habitable Worlds](#)
- [InSight Participating Scientist Program](#)
- [Solar System Workings](#)
- [Earth Science \(Graduate Student\) Fellowship Proposals](#)
- [Space Science \(Graduate Student\) Fellowship Proposals](#)

The names of the programs above should contain links to those individual review forms, but the landing page all of these forms may be found at:

- **DRAFT SALMON-3 AO FOR SIMPLEX PROGRAM RELEASED**

On January 30, 2018, the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) will be releasing a draft Third Stand Alone Missions of Opportunity Notice (SALMON-3) Program Element Appendix (PEA) Announcement of Opportunity (AO) for community comments. Comments, via email to the point of contact below, are due by on March 14, 2018. Upon the release date, the full text of the draft solicitation will be available at NSPIRES (<http://nspires.nasaprs.com/>).

SALMON-3 is an omnibus NASA Announcement of Opportunity. The SALMON-3 AO provides a solicitation and procurement base for modest investigations, also referred to as Missions of Opportunity (MO), requiring space flight that advance the high priority science, exploration, and technology objectives of NASA's Science Mission Directorate, Human Exploration and Operations Mission Directorate, and the Space Technology Mission Directorate. This release of the SALMON-3 PEA includes a proposal opportunity Small Complete Mission of Opportunity for Small Innovative Missions for Planetary Exploration (SIMPLEx).

This Draft SALMON-3 PEA describes the requirements for Small Complete Mission of Opportunity proposal opportunities and documents specific requirements for SIMPLEx. Through this PEA, NASA Science Mission Directorate, Planetary Science Division (SMD/PSD) solicits investigations in which a secondary payload small spacecraft is built and launched with a primary spacecraft mission, followed by production of high quality and highly useful science data from that SmallSat, analysis of the data and publication of scientific results, and delivery of the data to an appropriate NASA archive.

Participation will be open to all categories of organizations (U.S. and non-U.S.), including educational institutions, industry, not-for-profit organizations, Federally Funded Research and Development Centers, NASA Centers, the Jet Propulsion Laboratory, and other Government agencies. However, for this PEA, only U.S. organizations are eligible to propose as the sole or lead organization. Non-U.S. organizations may participate as non-lead organizations collaborating with U.S. leads.

The comment period for the Draft 2018 SALMON 3-PEA ends on March 14, 2018.

Comments on the draft may be addressed by email to SIMPLEx Program Scientist: Ms. Doris Daou, Email: [Doris.Daou@nasa.gov](mailto:Doris.Daou@nasa.gov) (subject line to read "SIMPLEx Draft AO"). Responses to all inquiries will be answered by email and also posted at the Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) location of the SIMPLEx Program Acquisition website (<https://soma.larc.nasa.gov/SIMPLEx/>); anonymity of persons/institutions who submit questions will be preserved.

## FYIs

- **PUBLISH YOUR NOTICE IN THE AGU PLANETARY SCIENCES NEWSLETTER**

With a membership of over 6500 planetary scientists worldwide, your announcements and notices in the AGU Planetary Sciences newsletter will reach a wide range of professionals and students in precisely the areas in which you should advertise. If you have any job postings, conference announcements or other planetary-related material, please send it to [michael.a.mischna@jpl.nasa.gov](mailto:michael.a.mischna@jpl.nasa.gov) to be included in a future newsletter.