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**AGU Planetary Sciences Section NEWSLETTER #36**  
**16 August, 2010**

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**1) Message from the Section President**

Greetings P Section colleagues! On July 1, I took over as President of the Planetary Sciences Section of AGU, starting a 2 year term. I'll plan short messages in these newsletters to keep you apprised of Union and section happenings. First, I'd like to acknowledge and thank Bruce Jakosky, our past President, and Bruce Banerdt (our past Section Secretary) for their hard work and dedication to making our section successful. I'd also like to welcome our Section President-elect, Bill McKinnon and our new Section Secretary, Lindy Elkins-Tanton to their new roles.

This has been an exciting time of change at AGU. As part of my AGU duties, I serve on the Executive Review Committee, which was the search committee for the new AGU Executive Director. I am pleased to report that our new AGU ED, Christine McEntee, is coming on board this month, She will continue to drive exciting changes at AGU, and is extremely qualified for the post, having come most recently from the American Institute of Architects. I'd also like to point you all to AGU's new Strategic Plan, which has been worked by a large group of AGU leaders over the past 18 months or so. We will be discussing how our Section can contribute to the key goals in the plan, which include:

- Scientific Leadership and Collaboration: AGU is a leader, collaborator, and sought-out partner for scientific innovation, rigor, and interdisciplinary focus on global issues;
- Science and Society: AGU engages members, shapes policy, and informs society about the excitement of Earth and space science and its role in developing solutions for the sustainability of the planet;
- Talent Pool: AGU is a diverse and inclusive organization that uses its position to build the global talent pool in Earth and space science; and
- Organizational Excellence: As a scientific society, AGU operates within a new business model that is sustainable, transparent, and inclusive in ways that are responsive to members and stakeholders.

For more information on Chris and on the New AGU Strategic Plan, please visit the revamped AGU website at:

<http://www.agu.org>

In terms of a specific set of actions, we are looking at how to best invest the (small!) resources our Section has available, that are raised in part through member contributions given during membership renewal and at other times. We seek to invest these resources in student paper awards, AGU Day on the Hill travel support, and other worthy causes to advance the goals of the Union and our Section. Stay tuned for more on this in future newsletters.

I am always open to hearing your ideas – please email me at [laurie.leshin@nasa.gov](mailto:laurie.leshin@nasa.gov) and put AGU in the subject line if you have AGU business or ideas for me! And I hope to see many of you at our Section reception at Fall Meeting – don't forget to get those Abstracts in!

Best regards,  
Laurie Leshin

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## **2) Fall Meeting abstracts are due Thursday, September 2**

Abstracts for the Fall 2009 Meeting in San Francisco are due by midnight EDT on **Thursday, 2 September, 2009**. To submit, go to the new Abstract Central site at:

[http://www.agu.org/meetings/fm10/program/abstract\\_submissions.php](http://www.agu.org/meetings/fm10/program/abstract_submissions.php)

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## **3) Planetary Sciences list of AGU Fall Meeting sessions**

- P01: Planetary Sciences General Contributions
- P02: Mineralogical Studies of Impact Craters: Exhumed Crust, Hydrothermal Processes, and Post-Impact Weathering
- P03: Evolution of Planetary Atmospheres
- P04: Planetary Rings: Theory and Observation
- P05: Eyes on Enceladus
- P06: Minds on Mimas
- P07: Changes in the Lunar Paradigm: Implications of Hydrous Magmatism on Lunar Evolution
- P08: Characterizing Soils and Their Development on Mars, the Moon, and Other Extraterrestrial Bodies
- P09: The Atmosphere of Mars: New Findings from Modeling and Observations
- P10: Planetary Analogs: The Good, the Bad and the Ugly
- P11: Titan's Methane Cycle and its Effect on the Surface
- P12: Planetary Radar Investigations: Observations, Theory, Lab Measurements, Field

Analogues, and Future Opportunities

P13: Exploring Venus

P14: Rosetta Flybys of Asteroids 2867 Steins and 21 Lutetia

P15: The Potential for Water-Organics Interactions on Titan

P16: Science From Multi-Spacecraft Observations: The Moon, Mars, and Jupiter

P17: Icy Ocean Worlds

P18: Interiors of Terrestrial Planets and Super-Earth Exoplanets

P19: It's No Moonshine: The Amazing Origins and Evolutions of Outer Planet Satellites

P20: Explosive Volcanism in the Solar System

P21: South Pole-Aitken Basin: New Insights

P22: On the Nature, Origin, and Evolution of Water on Airless Bodies

P23: The Shape of Things to Come: Using Topography to Investigate the Evolution of Outer Solar System Satellites

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#### **4) Please consider volunteering to be section web manager**

AGU Planetary Sciences Section is looking for a new web manager for the section web pages. This is a volunteer position with a very minimal time requirement (< few days per year). Volunteer should be a member of the section. Please contact Wendy Calvin, [wcalvin@unr.edu](mailto:wcalvin@unr.edu) or section leadership.

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#### **5) Student representative wanted!**

AGU Planetary Sciences Section is looking for a motivated planetary science graduate student to join the Executive Committee of the Planetary Sciences Section. The Planetary Section Student Representative will be responsible for ensuring the voices of students are heard in our Section, and possibly for organizing student events at meetings.

Please contact Section Secretary Lindy Elkins-Tanton at [ltelkins@mit.edu](mailto:ltelkins@mit.edu).

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#### **6) Planetary Exploration Newsletter**

You are invited to subscribe to and participate in the Planetary Exploration Newsletter (PEN). PEN is a free weekly electronic newsletter, providing a means by which planetary scientists around the world can communicate with each other. PEN contains meeting announcements, job announcements, and your submissions of news regarding or impacting solar system exploration, upcoming mission events, awards, policy issues, as well as editorials and commentary.

The PEN Meeting Calendar (<http://planetarynews.org/meetings.html>) strives to be the most exhaustive listing of planetary-related meetings, conferences and workshops around the world. Send the title, dates, location and URL to pen\_editor at psi.edu.

Go to <http://planetarynews.org> to subscribe to future mailings, read current and past mailings, and find guidelines for submitting content. There is no charge.

Mark Sykes, Melissa Lane, Susan Benecchi (Planetary Science Institute)

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### **7) Twitter or Facebook?**

Would you like our AGU section to create a presence on Twitter or Facebook? Please let us know what you think – email Lindy Elkins-Tanton at [ltelkins@mit.edu](mailto:ltelkins@mit.edu).

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For future newsletter items please contact:  
Section Secretary Lindy Elkins-Tanton, [ltelkins@mit.edu](mailto:ltelkins@mit.edu).

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