



November 2018 Newsletter

Upcoming Events & Deadlines

For the latest Planetary Sciences updates and events, visit the [section website](#).

- 4-7 November: [2018 Geological Society of America Annual Meeting](#), Indianapolis, IN
- 6–8 November: [Venus Exploration Analysis Group meeting](#), Laurel, MD
- 13–15 November: [Lunar Exploration Analysis Group meeting](#), Columbia, MD
- 15 November: Abstract deadline, [Mars Extant Life: What's Next?](#)
- **10-14 December:** [AGU Fall Meeting 2018](#), Washington, DC
- 8 January 2019: Abstract deadline, [50th Lunar and Planetary Science Conference](#)
- 15 January 2019: Application deadline, [AGU Congressional Science Fellowship](#)
- 29–31 January: [Small Bodies Assessment Group \(SBAG\) meeting](#), Houston, TX
- 29 January–1 February: [Mars Extant Life: What's Next?](#) Carlsbad, NM
- 18–22 March 2019: [50th Lunar and Planetary Science Conference](#), The Woodlands, TX

Planetary Sciences Announcements

Planetary Sciences Section Business Meeting and Reception

The PS section will be holding the annual Business Meeting and Reception Tuesday December 11 from 6:30 – 8:00 pm at the Fall Meeting. This is an opportunity to engage within our Scientific Neighborhood as well as host our traditional business meetings/award presentations in a private meeting room located within our neighborhood. Attendees will be able to move between section business meetings while also enjoying an opportunity to engage with section leaders and colleagues in an informal reception setting. More details and tickets can be [found here](#).

AGU Fall Meeting Union Session on Implicit Bias in Earth and Space Sciences

We would like to draw your attention to [The Challenges of Recognizing Implicit Bias in Earth and Space Sciences and Strategies for Minimizing Its Impact in the Coming Decades of AGU](#), an AGU Union session on implicit bias in Earth and space sciences that will take place at Fall Meeting in Washington, D. C., on Friday, 14 December, from 1:40 - 3:40 p.m.

We invite AGU members for a panel session on implicit bias. Implicit bias refers to attitudes that affect our decisions and evaluations without our consciously realizing it. Implicit biases are an inherent part of the human brain. Although the value and importance of diversity in science is beyond dispute, implicit bias adversely influences proposal and journal reviews, how recommendation letters are written, who is invited to professional talks and panels, and who is heard during conference discussions. Implicit bias affects hiring decisions, who is nominated for and receives awards and funding, and who is promoted and encouraged in STEM. This session will address how implicit decision-making occurs and how we can reduce its impact through awareness. An expert panel will present an overview of the research and impacts and describe resources and positive actions our community can take to reduce the impact of implicit bias. Time will be allocated for audience discussion and questions. For those unable to attend, a recording of the session will be available online through [AGU On-Demand](#) within days after the session. Conveners: Hazel M. Bain, University of Colorado Boulder; Alexa Jean Halford, Aerospace Corporation Chantilly; Blair Schneider, University of Kansas.

Lunar Surface Instrument and Technology Payloads Call Released

The [C.28 Lunar Surface Instrument and Technology Payloads](#), program element solicits flight payloads that do not require significant additional development. Investigations are sought that address the science goals of any of the four divisions (Planetary, Earth Science, Heliophysics, Astrophysics) of the NASA Science Mission Directorate (SMD), as well as Strategic Knowledge Gaps of the Human Exploration and Operations Mission Directorate (HEOMD) or any technology demonstration goals of the Space Technology Mission Directorate (STMD) that advance capabilities for science, exploration, or commercial development of the Moon.

This Research Opportunities in Space and Earth Science (ROSES) element invites proposals for complete, principal investigator–led science instrument and technology investigations. The term "complete" encompasses all of the investigation phases including project initiation, payload preparation, payload integration, payload operations, scientific and engineering analysis of the mission data, publication of results, and final dissemination of the data including delivery to NASA's archive.

This call is specifically geared toward small payloads that can be ready quickly in order to meet the immediate need for payloads for early Commercial Lunar Payload Services flights. We are interested in flight spares, engineering models, modified off-the-shelf payloads, student hardware, or any other

hardware that can credibly meet the aggressive timeline required. Future calls for lunar payloads will occur at regular intervals for later missions. We anticipate that the next call will be released in approximately 1 year.

This program element uses a two-step proposal submission process in which a mandatory Step-1 (preliminary) proposal must be submitted by an authorized organizational representative. Mandatory Step-1 proposals are due 19 November, Step-2 proposals are due 17 January 2019. Questions concerning this program element may be directed to [Sarah Noble](#).

GSFC Research Associate in Noble Gas Analysis

Applications are now being accepted for a [research associate to work on the development of Ar-Ar analysis and dating of geological samples at NASA Goddard Space Flight Center](#). This position may be filled at the postdoctoral level or for more senior researchers as a visiting scholar. The successful candidate would join scientists in the Noble Gas Research Lab (MNGRL) to develop the capability for Ar-Ar geochronology on our multicollector instruments and use it to address questions about solar system materials, for example, the origin of meteorites, the age of aqueous alteration, or other research of mutual interest.

The MNGRL facility comprises two multicollector magnetic sector mass spectrometers (Nu Noblesse and Thermo Helix) with various modes of gas extraction (laser and furnace), two in situ geochronology development projects, and sample examination and preparation capabilities. Applicants should hold a Ph.D. in geosciences or a related field and have experience in noble gas analysis of geological samples, either terrestrial or extraterrestrial. U.S. citizenship is not required. Applications are due by 2 November, for more information, contact [Dr. Barbara Cohen](#).

AGU Announcements

2018 Elections

The Leadership Development/Governance Committee is pleased to announce the results of the 2018 AGU elections. Newly elected leaders begin their term on 1 January 2019 and serve for 2 years. Please join us in congratulating President-elect, **Michael Mischna** and Secretary, **David A. Williams!**

Celebrate 100 Grants Program

As part of its [Centennial celebration](#), AGU today announced the launch of a new grant program, [Celebrate 100 Grants](#). AGU, an international organization representing Earth and space scientists, will celebrate its Centennial in 2019.

[Celebrate 100 Grants](#) will be awarded to scientists, institutions, and other groups within the broad Earth and space science community. They will support activities designed to amplify the accomplishments and stories of the past 100 years, build lasting connections between the research

community and society, and inspire the world to see how Earth and space science can create a more sustainable future for us all. These events can involve groups of other scientists, policy makers, students, and even members of the public; they can be a one-time event, or a series, and they can take place in person or virtually. Examples of potential events or activities might include launching a crowdsourced data rescue project, establishing a mentoring program for graduate students, hosting an outreach program at a local middle school, or buying a stall at a local farmer's market for a season to have an "Ask the Scientist" stand.

"The history of the last 100 years of discoveries, innovations, and solutions in Earth and space science is a rich, complex, and important story. That's why, in many ways, the Centennial isn't a celebration of 100 years of AGU. It's a celebration of 100 years of our science...and the dedicated, inspirational people who have made it all possible," AGU executive director and CEO Chris McEntee said. "When we began to map out ways to recognize AGU's Centennial, it was clear that our community had to be the ones driving the celebration. With this grant program, we are striving to support their efforts to prepare us for the next 100 years of Earth and space science discoveries and solutions."

AGU will be accepting grant applications on a rolling basis from now to the end of 2019. Grants will be awarded at two levels: [micro grants](#) up to \$1,000, and [major grants](#) between \$1,001 and \$10,000. Grants are not limited to AGU members, and institutions are encouraged to apply. As the Centennial progresses, we will be sharing information about all the events planned on the Centennial website, as well as [Eos](#), AGUverse, [From the Prow](#), and AGU's various social media channels.

AGU Congressional Science Fellows

The demands on Congress to establish sound public policy on scientific issues have never been greater, the effects of which are far-reaching. In response to these congressional needs, AGU is pleased to have sponsored a [Congressional Science Fellowship](#) for 40 years. The Fellowship program enables more effective use of scientific knowledge in government and provides a unique experience to scientists seeking careers involving public use of technical information. The Congressional Science Fellowship program places highly qualified, accomplished scientists, engineers, and other professionals either in the office of an individual member of Congress or on a committee for a 1-year assignment. The AGU Congressional Fellow will have the opportunity to make significant contributions to public policy during his or her time working with Congress. Past Fellows have been directly involved in water policy, climate research, energy conservation, and a range of other issues that are of high priority to society. [Terms, selection criteria, and an application are here.](#)

Application closes 15 January for the 2019–2020 Fellowship year.

Session Proposal deadline for AbSciCon is 6, November

[AbSciCon 2019](#) is the next conference in a series organized by AGU, NASA and the astrobiology community. This year's theme is Understanding and Enabling the Search for Life on Worlds Near and Far. Future missions and observations will aim to further our understanding of diverse planetary environments, while fundamental research on the origin and evolution of life on Earth drives our

understanding of how life may operate elsewhere. [Session proposals](#) are encouraged for sessions that address the conference themes as well as other topics. Preference will be given to proposed sessions with strong interdisciplinary themes that address new and emerging areas of research.

FYIs

Get Social with Planetary Sciences!

Looking for even more Planetary Sciences happenings? Our section website is packed with updates, employment opportunities, key contacts, and section specific announcements. Be sure to also follow us on Facebook and Twitter for the latest PS activities.

Publish Your Notice in the AGU Planetary Sciences Newsletter

The AGU Planetary Sciences section has more than 6,500 scientist members worldwide. Your announcements and notices in the 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 Mischna](#) to be included in a future newsletter.