



**Planetary Sciences (PS) Section
Newsletter #57: November 2014**

- 1) Letter from the Section President
- 2) 2014 AGU Fall Meeting Planetary Schedule
- 3) 2014 AGU Fall Meeting Planetary Reception and Business Meeting
- 4) 2014 AGU Fall Meeting Planetary Science/Space Physics Career Night Mixer
- 5) 2014 AGU Fall Meeting Student Breakfast
- 6) 2014 AGU Fall Meeting OSPA Judging
- 7) Planetary Science Section Election Results
- 8) *JGR-Planets* on Social Media
- 9) *JGR-Planets* Format Feedback
- 10) Eleventh IAA Low-Cost Planetary Mission Conference

1) Letter from the Section President

Dear Colleagues:

The Fall Meeting is now a month away, and it is shaping up to be another amazing cavalcade of science (planetary and otherwise). The Planetary Sciences (PS) Section Executive Committee hopes to see many of you at sessions, at our special lectures Monday afternoon, and at Paragon on Tuesday night (see below). As I write this, the U.S. midterm election results are in, and whatever your views, the next two years will not be the same as the last two. It remains to be seen how and when Congress will deal with unfinished FY2015 business, much less tackle the FY2016 budget, but NASA in particular has not historically been viewed through partisan eyes. It is my hope, once the legislative gears start turning, that our community will once again raise its collective voice in support of planetary science and exploration. You will be hearing from us and from our sister societies, and probably sooner than later, so stay tuned! See you in December!

Best regards,

Bill McKinnon
AGU Section President, Planetary Sciences

2) 2014 AGU Fall Meeting Planetary Schedule

This [three-page pdf file](#) gives the times and locations of all Planetary Sciences Section oral and poster sessions, plus a selection of special events.

3) 2014 AGU Fall Meeting Planetary Sciences Reception and Business Meeting

Tickets are still available (!) for the Planetary Science Section Fall Reception at the Paragon Restaurant (701 2nd St, San Francisco), starting at 7:00 PM on Tuesday, 16 December. We will meet at the Paragon (like last year), and there will be plenty of food and beverage. The cost is \$25 for regular members and \$15 for students. This should be fun and a great opportunity to mix with your colleagues and meet the AGU PS Executive Committee for 2013-14 and 2015-16.

4) 2014 AGU Fall Meeting Planetary Science/Space Physics Career Night Mixer

Join notable planetary and space physics scientists at this mixer and find out about their careers in a variety of professional backgrounds (e.g., academics, industry, federal labs, etc.). Get a better understanding of what kinds of careers are available in planetary science and space physics, and how to pursue them. This event will be held from 7:00 to 9:00 PM on Sunday, 14 December at the InterContinental San Francisco – Grand Ballroom B. The event is free to all AGU registrants.

5) 2014 AGU Fall Meeting Student Breakfast

Students in the Planetary Science Section should note the [AGU Fall Meeting Student Breakfast](#) on Wednesday, 17 December, from 7:00 to 8:00 AM at the Marriott Marquis – Golden Gate A&B. The event is open to all students who have registered for the meeting, so this is a great way to meet and network with fellow undergraduates and graduates across AGU's disciplines, as well as section and focus group leaders who will also be in attendance.

6) 2014 AGU Fall Meeting OSPA Judging

The AGU Fall Meeting is a mecca for geoscience students for obvious reasons: Exposure to top-rate science, the ability to network with fellow students and scientists, and, perhaps most importantly, an opportunity (commonly the first) for the students to showcase their research to the community. As an incentive to students, AGU sponsors the [Outstanding Student Paper Award \(OSPA\)](#). This process relies on the dedication of professional judges, that is, you! We would be very appreciative if you could devote a small part of the AGU meeting to judging student posters and talks. You may soon receive an e-mail (perhaps from your friendly PS Secretary) requesting your service for this important role. Students are the future of AGU and we thank you for helping us in this important endeavor.

7) Planetary Science Section Election Results

The election results for Planetary Science Section Officers for the 2015-16 term are in. We are pleased to announce that Sarah Stewart (University of California Davis) will become President-Elect and Barbara Cohen (NASA Marshall Spaceflight Center) will become Secretary. The current President-Elect, Lindy Elkins-Tanton, will become President, replacing Bill McKinnon, who will move on to President Emeritus. Also, as mentioned in the last newsletter, Alex Morgan will become our new Graduate Student Representative, taking the reins from Sona Hosseini who has served admirably for the last three years.

8) *JGR-Planets* on Social Media

The *Journal of Geophysical Research-Planets* is expanding into social media, with the following additions:

- A Twitter stream ([@jgrplanets](#)) and a Facebook page ([JGR-Planets](#))
 - All "Recently Published" articles will be highlighted and linked to as they go online
 - Each monthly issue, and likely its cover, will be highlighted
 - The journal will provide a weekly summary of newly published papers
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9) *JGR-Planets* Format Feedback

JGR-Planets recently updated their format (as did all other AGU journals), mostly to make it more compatible with online viewing. The PS Section is interested in member opinions on this change. In our communications with the staff at the journal, we are convinced that they want nothing but the best for the authors and readers, while also expanding *JGR-Planets* into the digital age. With that said, feedback is always welcome. So, if you have comments or suggestions, please pass them on.

10) Eleventh IAA Low-Cost Planetary Mission Conference (LCPM-11)

The International Academy of Astronautics (IAA) LCPM-11 will be held on 9-11 June 2015, in Berlin, Germany, at the Archenhold Sternwarte, located in one of the largest parks in the city. The [meeting website](#) has just gone live and will be updated regularly. The meeting will be held in the Einstein Saal, the venue where Albert Einstein gave his first public lecture on the theory of relativity. The co-chairs, Tilman Spohn, German Aerospace Center (DLR) Institute of Planetary Research, and Gregg Vane, NASA Jet Propulsion Laboratory (JPL) Solar System Exploration Directorate, will work with the program committee and soon announce the preliminary program.

Keep abreast of the latest AGU Planetary Sciences updates at the following websites:

<http://planets.agu.org/> (for job advertisements, click on Jobs in the Menu bar; if you are interested in posting a job ad, please contact [Nathan Bridges](#) and [Mark Hilverda](#))

[AGU Planetary Sciences Facebook page](#)

[AGU Planetary Sciences Twitter page](#)

[AGU Planetary Sciences LinkedIn page](#)

For future newsletter items please contact the Section Secretary, [Nathan Bridges](#)
