



Planetary Sciences

August 2021 Newsletter

Greetings from Your Planetary Sciences Section Leadership!

Happy start of the school year. We have been working hard to facilitate attendance at the upcoming [AGU Fall Meeting](#) and are looking for input from those who may need assistance with [registration reimbursement](#) or [caregiver assistance](#). We are continuing to accept applications for the various volunteer opportunities we've been posting about. Our wonderful Early Career and Student reps are going to rotate off at the end of the year and we are looking for new volunteers to join us – see Announcement #2 for details.

As always, we look forward to hearing from you.

Michael Mischna, President

Paul Byrne, President-Elect

Jennifer Whitten, Secretary

Sam Birch, Early Career Representative

Ashley Schoenfeld, Student Representative

Rosaly Lopes, Past-President

Upcoming Deadlines & Events

Upcoming Deadlines

- ROSES-2021: Rolling Submissions
 - [Several program will transition to No \(Fixed\) Due Dates \(NoDD\):](#)
 - Emerging Worlds (EW)
 - Solar System Workings (SSW)
 - Planetary Data Archiving, Restoration, and Tools (PDART)
 - Exobiology (ExoBio)
 - Solar System Observations (SSO)
 - Planetary Instrument Concepts for the Advancement of Solar System Observations (PICASSO)
 - Laboratory Analysis of Returned Samples (LARS)

Upcoming Conferences (all conferences virtual unless otherwise noted)

- **September 13-24, 2021:** Europlanet Science Congress 2021
- **September 14-17, 2021:** NASA Astrobiology Graduate Conference (AbFradCon)
- **September 20-24, 2021:** Spatially Resolved Spectroscopy with Extremely Large Telescopes

Planetary Sciences Announcements/Updates

1. NASA POSTDOCTORAL FELLOWSHIP – APPLICATION DEADLINE 1 NOVEMBER 2021

The NASA Postdoctoral Program offers US and international scientists the opportunity to advance their research while contributing to NASA's scientific goals. The NPP supports fundamental science; explores the undiscovered; promotes intellectual growth; and encourages scientific connections.

Selected by a competitive peer-review process, NPP Fellows complete one- to three-year Fellowship appointments that advance NASA's missions in earth science, heliophysics, planetary science, astrophysics, space bioscience, aeronautics and engineering, human exploration and space operations, and astrobiology.

Current NPP research opportunities in planetary science can be viewed here: [NPP Planetary Science Research Opportunities](#)

Applicants must have a Ph.D. or equivalent degree in hand before beginning the fellowship, but may apply while completing the degree requirements. Please see current [eligibility](#) requirements.

Stipends start at \$60,000 per year, with supplements for high cost-of-living areas and for certain academic specialties. Financial assistance is available for relocation and health insurance, and \$10,000 per year is provided for professional travel.

Applications are accepted three times each year: 1 March, 1 July and 1 November.

For further information and to apply, visit:

<https://npp.usra.edu/>

Questions: npphelp@usra.edu

2. AGU PLANETARY SCIENCE SECTION CALL FOR NEW STUDENT AND EARLY CAREER REPS

We are looking for students and early career applicants who are interested in serving on the AGU Planetary Science Section Executive Committee. These are two year positions that begin in January. All incoming reps are invited to our Exec Committee Meeting at the AGU Fall Meeting.

Responsibilities include attending leadership meetings, organizing student activities at the AGU Fall Meeting and leading new section initiatives that focus on support for student and early career members.

Application forms can be access at [this link](#) and are due by 15 October. If you have any questions feel free to contact the PSS Secretary, [Jenny Whitten](#).

3. MARS SAMPLE RETURN PROGRAM POSTDOCTORAL POSITION

This position will involve science investigations in support of the Mare Sample Return Program, including but not limited to the following:

- 1) Measurement of leak rates relevant for the sealed Mars 2020 sample tubes under various conditions appropriate for their residence on Mars, in transit, or on Earth.
- 2) Developing methodologies for extracting head space gas from these sample tubes for isotopic analyses.

3) Assessing potential alteration of the isotopic composition of gases stored in these sample tubes.

The successful candidate will be expected to report results from this work at appropriate scientific conferences, and publish these in peer-reviewed journal articles.

Requirements: PhD in the physical sciences.

Desired: Experience with mass spectrometry and vacuum systems; experience in isotope geochemistry.

The appointee will carry out research in collaboration with the JPL advisor, resulting in publications in the open literature.

Applicants may be subject to additional program requirements by NASA. Postdoctoral Scholar positions are awarded for a minimum of one-year period and may be renewed up to a maximum of three years. Candidates should submit the following to this site: CV, representative publications, contact information for three references, and a cover letter stating their research accomplishments and interests.

[Apply here.](#)

4. VOLUNTEERING WITH THE AGU PLANETARY SCIENCES SECTION

We are looking for people who are interested in getting involved with the AGU Planetary Sciences Section through our Honors Canvassing Committee. This committee works involves reaching out to colleagues, department heads, managers, etc. to encourage submission of applications for the Fred Whipple Award, Carl Sagan Lecture, Eugene Shoemaker Lecture and Ronald Greeley Early Career Award. The time commitment is approximately 20 hours between the months of December and March (award nomination packets are due 15 April).

Please [fill out this form](#) if you are interested in volunteering for any of these positions. This is the last call before we begin reaching out to volunteers regarding committee assignments.