



Planetary Sciences

## June 2019 Newsletter

Greetings from Your Planetary Sciences Section Leadership!

The Program Committee has met, and the final list of sessions will be available soon. Abstract submissions will open in mid-June and close on 31 July.

We are still collecting iconic planetary images of solar system objects and major results (graphics also accepted) that represent progress in the planetary sciences over the past 100 years. Some of the images will be displayed on the Centennial Theater screen on a rotating basis with images collected from other sections, and potentially will be displayed on other AGU media as well.

Please send images with a short title to David Williams at [david.williams@asu.edu](mailto:david.williams@asu.edu).

Looking forward to seeing many of you at the Fall Meeting.

Rosaly Lopes, President

Michael Mischna, President-elect

David Williams, Secretary

Sam Birch, Early Career Representative

Ashley Schoenfeld, Student Representative

Sarah Stewart, Past President

## Upcoming Deadlines & Events

For the latest Planetary Sciences updates and events, visit the section calendar.

## Upcoming Deadlines

- ROSES-2019: Emerging Worlds, Step-2 proposals: 12 June 2019

- ROSES-2019: Exobiology, Step-2 proposals: 12 June 2019
- ROSES-2019: Solar System Observations, Step-2 proposals: 12 June 2019
- ROSES-2019: Development and Advancement of Lunar Instrumentation, Step-2 proposals: 12 June 2019
- ROSES-2019: Laboratory Analysis of Returned Samples: 25 June 2019
- ROSES-2019: Planetary Data Archiving, Restoration, and Tools, Step-2 proposals: 11 July 2019
- ROSES-2019: Cassini Data Analysis, Step-2 proposals: 18 July 2019

## **Upcoming Conferences**

- **9–13 June:** 234th Meeting of the American Astronomical Society, St. Louis, Mo.
- **12–14 June:** Planetary Geologic Mappers Meeting, U.S. Geological Survey, Flagstaff, AZ
- **18–20 June:** 4th Planetary Data Workshop, Flagstaff, AZ
- **24–25 June:** 21st Meeting of the NASA Small Bodies Assessment Group, Washington, D.C.
- **24–28 June:** 2019 Astrobiology Science Conference (AbSciCon), Bellevue, Wash.
- **27–28 June:** Planetary CubeSats Symposium, Greenbelt, Md.
- **7–12 July:** 82nd Annual Meeting of the Meteoritical Society, Sapporo, Japan
- **14–18 July:** The Pluto System After New Horizons Conference, Laurel, Md.
- **15–17 July:** Lunar in Situ Resource Utilization 2019 Workshop, Columbia, Md.
- **22–25 July:** 9th International Conference on Mars, Pasadena, Calif.

## **Planetary Sciences Announcements/Updates**

### **1. Second Announcement: Icarus Special Issue on the Pluto System, Kuiper Belt, and Kuiper Belt Objects**

Icarus is sponsoring a special issue on results related to the exploration of the Pluto system, the Kuiper belt, and Kuiper belt objects, particularly by New Horizons, ground-based techniques, and NASA New Frontiers Data Analysis Program (NFDAP) projects. Papers are solicited from authors across the planetary science community.

**Deadline for this special issue:** 15 September 2019

**For more information, contact:**

Alan Stern, Principal Investigator, New Horizons  
Rosaly Lopes, Editor, Icarus

**2. Subject Matter Expert Reviewer of Proposals Submitted to NASA**

Cornell Technical Services LLC (CTS) is a support contractor to NASA.

CTS seeks Subject Matter Experts with significant experience in the design, development, and operations of missions, spacecraft, and instruments relevant to NASA's goals. We help NASA evaluate proposals and review programs for investigations intended to help answer the big questions of Earth science, heliophysics, planetary science, and astrophysics.

As a CTS part-time employee or consultant, you will participate as a Subject Matter Expert on review teams conducting in-depth technical, management, and cost assessments of proposals and Phase A concept studies. Our work is performed remotely, with travel occurring periodically during the assignment to bring the geographically distributed teams together to finalize results. An ideal candidate is willing and able to work part-time on an as-needed basis to support the tasks and has significant, direct, hands-on build and spaceflight technical or management responsibility in one or more of the following areas:

- Flight systems
- Mission design and operations, including trajectory analysis
- Design, development, and operation of spacecraft and spacecraft subsystems
- Space-based instruments including passive remote sensors in all wavelengths, active sensors and systems, and in situ instruments for particles and fields or direct material sampling
- Senior systems engineering for either spacecraft or instruments
- Space communications and ground systems development and operations
- Mission leadership as a program or project manager

CTS provides support to the NASA Science Mission Directorate (SMD) on the Evaluation, Assessments, Studies, Service and Support 2 (EASSS-2) contract by assembling evaluation teams in response to Announcements of Opportunities and other acquisition requests by supporting the Technical, Management, and Cost (TMC) evaluations for NASA acquisitions. The following URL will provide more information: <https://soma.larc.nasa.gov>.

We are currently developing the staffing plans for several upcoming SMD TMC evaluations.

Panel members are compensated for their time and expertise.

**For more information:** Contact us via email at [smes@cts-llc.com](mailto:smes@cts-llc.com), visit us online at [www.cts-llc.com](http://www.cts-llc.com), or phone 1-757-251-2691.

### **3. Journal Special Issue: Planetary Exploration of Habitable Environments**

The journal *Life* (ISSN 2075-1729) is currently running a special issue titled "Planetary Exploration of Habitable Environments." Prof. Dr. Dirk Schulze-Makuch, Technical University of Berlin (Germany), and Dr. Alberto G. Fairén, Centro de Astrobiología (Madrid, Spain) and Cornell University (Ithaca, N.Y.), are serving as guest editors for this issue.

**Submission deadline:** 15 October 2019

For further reading, please follow the link to the special issue website: [https://www.mdpi.com/si/life/Planetary\\_Exploration](https://www.mdpi.com/si/life/Planetary_Exploration).

For further details on the submission process, please see the instructions for authors at the journal website: <http://www.mdpi.com/journal/life/instructions>.

### **4. 10th Planetary Crater Consortium Meeting**

**Location:** U.S. Geological Survey, Flagstaff, Ariz.

**Date:** 7–9 August 2019

The 10th Planetary Crater Consortium Meeting will be held 7–9 August 2019 at the U.S. Geological Survey in Flagstaff, Ariz. The Planetary Crater Consortium is open to all planetary scientists interested in any aspect of impact cratering on solar system bodies (including Earth!) incorporating observational, theoretical, experimental, field, and/or numerical studies. The meeting is a combination of contributed talks, posters, and open discussion and is designed to encourage and provide adequate time for in-depth discussion of crater-related issues and topics to enhance research collaborations. Abstract deadline is Monday, 24 June 2019. An optional field trip around the rim of Meteor crater will be arranged for Saturday, 10 August 2019, if there is sufficient interest.

**Contact:** Nadine G. Barlow, [nadine.barlow@nau.edu](mailto:nadine.barlow@nau.edu)

### **5. The Planetary CubeSats Symposium**

**Location:** NASA Goddard Space Flight Center, Greenbelt, Md.

**Date:** 27–28 June 2019

The Planetary CubeSats/SmallSats symposiums are held annually at NASA Goddard Space Flight Center, with the participation of CubeSat scientists and developers. Discussions include current missions, mission concepts, and opportunities for future mission selections. The sessions also include panel discussions about strategic and technical aspects of planetary CubeSats, and an afternoon poster session provides mission proposers the opportunity to meet with vendors and suppliers. Registration is open now at <https://cubesats.gsfc.nasa.gov/symposium.php>.

## **6. NASA Postdoctoral Fellowship—Application Deadline: 1 July 2019**

The NASA Postdoctoral Program (NPP) offers U.S. 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 1- to 3-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. U.S. citizens, lawful permanent residents, and foreign nationals eligible for J-1 status as a research scholar may apply.

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](mailto:npphelp@usra.edu)