



Planetary Sciences

June 2018 Newsletter

Upcoming Events & Deadlines

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

Upcoming Deadlines

- June 25, 2018: Registration Deadline, [Conference on Magnetospheres of the Outer Planets](#)
- June 29, 2018: Early Registration Deadline, [Cassini Science Symposium](#)
- July 18, 2018: Abstract Deadline, [Late Mars Workshop](#)
- July 24, 2018: Registration Deadline, [Lunar Polar Volatiles Meeting](#)
- July 26, 2018: Abstract Deadline, [Europa Deep Dive 2: Composition](#)

Upcoming Conferences

- **December 10-14, 2018:** [American Geophysical Union Fall Meeting](#), Washington, DC
- June 18-22, 2018: [Mars Workshop on Amazonian and Present-Day Climate](#), Lakewood, CO
- July 9-13, 2018: [Conference on Magnetospheres of the Outer Planets](#), Boulder, CO
- July 14-22, 2018: [42nd COSPAR Scientific Assembly](#), Pasadena, CA
- July 29, 2018: [Exoplanet Exploration Program Analysis Group Meeting](#), Cambridge, MA
- August 7-9, 2018: [Lunar Polar Volatiles Meeting](#), Laurel, MD
- August 8-10, 2018: [9th Planetary Crater Consortium](#), Boulder, CO
- August 12-17, 2018: [Cassini Science Symposium](#), Boulder CO
- August 27-30, 2018: [3rd Comparative Climatology of Terrestrial Planets](#), Houston, TX
- September 11-14, 2018: [International Venus Conference 2018](#), Niseko, Japan

- September 11-12, 2018: [Outer Planets Assessment Group](#), Pasadena, CA
- September 11-13, 2018: [Committee on Astrobiology and Planetary Science \(CAPS\)](#), Irvine, CA
- September 12-14, 2018: [International Workshop on Instrumentation for Planetary Missions \(IPM-2018\)](#), Berlin, Germany
- September 16-21, 2018: [European Planetary Science Congress 2018](#), Berlin, Germany
- October 1-3, 2018: [Late Mars Workshop](#), Houston, TX
- October 9-11, 2018: [Europa Deep Dive 2: Composition](#), Houston, TX
- October 10-12, 2018: [7th Joint Workshop on High Pressure. Planetary and Plasma Physics \(HP4\)](#), Berlin, Germany
- November 4-7, 2018: [2018 Geological Society of America Annual Meeting](#), Indianapolis, IN

Planetary Science Notices

In Memoriam: Michael J. S. Belton (1934 - 2018)



Michael J.S. Belton (1934-2018) was the President of Belton Space Exploration Initiatives, LLC, and an Emeritus Astronomer at the National Optical Astronomy Observatory (NOAO). Born in Bognor Regis, England, he received his Bachelor's degree at the University of St. Andrews in Scotland, and earned his Ph.D. at the University of California, Berkeley. He joined Kitt Peak National Observatory (the precursor to NOAO) in 1964 and carried out research on nearly all objects that fell under "planetary science." Belton was a member of the Mariner 10 team that flew a space probe by Mercury and Venus. As a member of the Mariner Jupiter/Uranus Science Advisory Committee he helped define what became the Voyager missions to the outer solar system. He

was the Leader of the Galileo Mission Imaging Science Team. Galileo studied the Earth's Moon, made the first close-up observations of an asteroid, Gaspra, and discovered the first moon of an asteroid, Dactyl, as it passed the asteroid Ida on its way to Jupiter. Before arriving, the team observed the impact of the fragments of comet Shoemaker-Levy 9 into the Jupiter atmosphere and later studied the aftermath in detail. At Jupiter, Belton and his team delved into the nature of the Galilean satellites, the population of small satellites, the Jovian ring system, and the planet's atmosphere.

Among the young astronomers who worked with him on his many projects Mike Belton was a mentor who unselfishly encouraged their professional growth. He was an engaging, interested and positive colleague. He was an out-of-the box thinker and visionary in the truest sense. He is deeply missed.

More details about [Michael's life](#), and information about [memorial services](#).

Project Research Fellow In Rise/NAOJ

[Project research fellow](#) is a full-time position (38.75 working hours per week) employed under the scheme of the annual salary system of NINS. The fellow is expected to spend up to 50% of his or her time on jobs requested by the project he or she belongs to. To participate in the operation of the Hayabusa2 lidar as a lidar team member, initial analysis of the lidar data, and science research using them. To conduct research about the origin, evolution, or internal structure of the small bodies in the solar system. The term starts as soon as possible after the employment decision. The term is for 3 years, subject to annual review. If the applicant has been a project research fellow of NAOJ before, then the term will be shortened to less than 3 years so that his or her total period of employment at NAOJ does not exceed 5 years. Office location: 2-12 Hoshigaoka-cho, Mizusawa, Oshu, Iwate, or 2-21-1 Osawa, Mitaka, Tokyo, Japan. The applicant must have a Ph.D. degree in planetary science, astronomy, or related field no later than the start of the term.

Postdoctoral Position in Exoplanet Atmospheres, Lunar and Planetary Laboratory

The University of Arizona Department of Planetary Sciences/Lunar and Planetary Laboratory invites applications for [a postdoctoral position](#) to work with Dr. Tommi Koskinen on the escape and evolution of exoplanet atmospheres. The successful candidate will develop models of exoplanet upper atmospheres to interpret existing observations and motivate searches for new atmospheric signatures with current and future instruments. In addition to working on the interpretation of observations by the Hubble Space Telescope and ground-based high-resolution data, the candidate will have the opportunity to participate in the preparation for the NASA Colorado Ultraviolet Transit Experiment (CUTE).

The Lunar and Planetary Laboratory and the University of Arizona offer a world-class research program in astronomy, physics, and planetary sciences, including research into atmospheres ranging from exoplanets to the planets, dwarf planets, satellites, and comets in the solar system. The successful candidate will have the opportunity to interact and foster collaborations with many talented researchers working at the university.

Candidates should have a Ph.D. in planetary science, exoplanets, or a related field and experience in numerical modeling. A background in modeling atmospheres and/or atmospheric escape is an advantage. Candidates should [apply](#) to Job Posting P20545. Applications should include a cover letter, a CV, a brief statement of research plans, and contact details for two referees.

NASA Postdoctoral Fellowship Application Deadline

The [NASA Postdoctoral Program](#) (NPP) offers U.S. and international scientists the opportunity to advance their research while contributing to NASA's scientific goals. 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.

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 now 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. Questions can be directed [here](#).

European Space Agency Fellowships

The European Space Agency awards several [postdoctoral fellowships](#) each year. The aim of these fellowships is to provide scientists in their early career, holding a Ph.D. or the equivalent degree, with the means of performing research in fields related to the ESA Science Programme.

Areas of research include planetary science, astronomy and astrophysics, solar and solar-terrestrial science, plasma physics and fundamental physics. The fellowships have a duration of two years, with the possible extension to three years, and are tenable at the European Space Research and Technology Centre in Noordwijk, Netherlands, or at the European Space Astronomy Centre in Villafranca del Castillo, near Madrid, Spain.

Applications are now solicited for fellowships in space science to begin in the fall of 2019. Preference will be given to applications submitted by candidates in an early stage of their career. Candidates not holding a Ph.D. yet are encouraged to apply, but they must provide evidence of receiving their degree before starting the fellowship. ESA fellows are enrolled in ESA's Social Security Scheme, which covers medical expenses. A monthly deduction covers these short-term and long-term risks. The deadline for applications is 1 October 2018.

Questions on the scientific aspects of the ESA Fellowship in Space Science not answered in the above pages can be sent by e-mail to the fellowship coordinators, [Dr. Oliver Jennrich or Dr. Bruno Altieri](#)

Support Planetary Sciences

Planetary Sciences relies on its member contributions to fund such activities as student travel grants, Fall Meeting events, and other section programs. No contribution is too small; please consider donating today by visiting the [AGU donations site](#) and clicking on "Planetary Sciences." Individual donors (those who donate more than \$50) will also help Planetary Sciences take advantage of the [Section Incentive Program](#), which enhances primary member donations by giving an additional \$1,000–\$5,000 to section funds, depending on participation rate!

AGU Announcements

Revised Ethics Policy

Last September AGU leadership adopted a [revised ethics policy](#). In this [From the Prow](#) post, AGU President, President-elect and CEO give an update on the progress of our ethics work and reflect on the strides we have made since announcing the policy update.

AGU Centennial Celebrations

With AGU centennial celebrations underway, the [AGU Narratives Project](#) will help collect our shared history and build on it for years to come. Member contribution is encouraged through the three types of stories: [formal oral histories](#) collected by science historians; stories provided by you through the [StoryCorps Archives app](#); and interview conducted by [StoryCorps at Fall Meeting](#). Those interested in other centennial opportunities can complete this [Volunteer Form](#).

AGU Headquarters Renovation

The AGU headquarters building renovation is in its final stages and anticipating completion in December 2018, just in time for Fall Meeting! This [2-year project](#) intends to raise visibility of AGU, our members and science by creating a modern workspace that will also serve as a state-of-the-art meeting space for members, the Earth and space science community, and the public. The new building will be the first [net zero](#) renovation of an existing building in Washington, D.C. and feature interactive public exhibits. Visit [Building AGU](#) to learn more about the renovation and current updates!

Interested in Volunteering?

AGU is interested in knowing more about you and your interests. With a variety of volunteer opportunities, varying in commitment, and many committees and task forces meeting virtually, there is sure to be opportunities for all members! If you or someone you know are interested, please [complete a brief profile](#) with your interests to be matched with the perfect opportunity!

Apply to Share Your Science with K-12 Educators at Fall Meeting

AGU and the National Earth Science Teachers Association (NESTA) are now soliciting proposals from scientist/educator presenter teams at the [Geophysical Information for Teachers](#) (GIFT) workshop at the AGU Fall Meeting. Each selected team of presenters will have approximately 1.5 hours during one of the two workshop days to present their work, accompanied by a closely related hands-on activity or set of activities, to the educators. This collaborative workshop enables scientists to work closely with an education specialist to develop and share material with K–12 and informal educators. Each team of presenters will receive one free full-week registration to AGU Fall Meeting. Note that this is in addition to the free registration to the Fall Meeting for all K–12 educators with valid credentials. [Applications](#) are open now through 31 August. Please [contact us](#) with any questions.

AGU Instagram Takeover: Share Your Section's Science

We're looking for scientists of all career stages and disciplines to take over AGU's Instagram account with photos and videos of your work this summer. [Email us](#) if you are interested in taking over our Instagram account this summer during or after your field work, or for a few days while you're working in the lab. While you're out in the field, you can also share pictures of your work and field site with us by submitting a [Postcard from the Field](#) via our [Tumblr site](#).

Are you presenting new research findings at the 2018 AGU Fall Meeting or chairing a session at the Fall Meeting where new research will be presented? Do you think the research might be newsworthy? If so, please fill out [this publicity form](#) to tell AGU's press office why your research or research in your session might be of interest to the press and public. Press office staff will contact you if they are interested in publicizing the work at the meeting. If you're unsure about what makes scientific results newsworthy, check out [our handy newsworthiness criteria guide](#). For any questions, email news@agu.org.

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 in Our Section Newsletter**

The AGU Planetary Sciences section has more than 6500 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.