



Planetary Sciences

November 2019 Newsletter

Greetings from Your Planetary Sciences Section Leadership!

Congratulations to our new Section Fellows!

Michele Dougherty
Adam Showman
Meenakshi "Mini" Wadhwa

The Honors Ceremony for all AGU Fellows is Wednesday evening, 11 December. 2020 nominations for AGU Fellows and awards are open – nominate a deserving colleague on the [AGU Nomination Submission Site](#).

We hope everyone will come to the Sagan, Shoemaker, and Whipple lectures (Monday, see list below).

Carl Sagan Lecture (Joint Lecture from Biogeosciences and Planetary Sciences Sections), **Penelope J. Boston** (NASA Ames Research Center): Monday, 9 December 2019; 10:20 - 11:20.

Location: Moscone South; 201-202, L2

Eugene Shoemaker Lecture, **S. Alan Stern** (Southwest Research Institute): Monday, 9 December 2019; 13:40 - 14:40. Location: Moscone South; 201-202, L2

Fred Whipple Award and Lecture, **Faith Vilas** (Planetary Science Institute): Monday, 9 December 2019; 14:40 – 15:40. Location: Moscone South; 201-202, L2

The Ronald Greeley Early Career award will be given to **Xi Zhang** (University of California, Santa Cruz) during the Shoemaker/Whipple lecture session.

Centennial Program: It *is* Rocket Science

The "Beyond Earth" sessions have organized a day of programming to celebrate the Centennial. Our theme is "It is Rocket Science". Starting with Apollo 12 and what that mission brought to rocket science knowledge, this day focuses on the discoveries and visionaries from the past, present, and those who lead us to the future. A look at the future of lunar and Mars exploration is part of this day where scientists will talk about the future of space exploration and the growing partnerships involved and needed to continue the journey. It will include a Plenary "The Future of Lunar and Mars Exploration" by NASA's Chief Scientist Jim Green. See the whole program [Here](#).

Town Halls at Fall Meeting:

[NASA Planetary Division Town Hall](#)

[Venus Exploration](#)

[Planning for the National Academies' Next Planetary Science Decadal Survey](#)

[Forward to the Moon for Science and Exploration](#)

[Forward to the Moon: NASA Public-Private Partnership to Advance Lunar Science](#)

[Please click for the complete list of Town Halls](#)

Student Travel Grants

As we approach [Fall Meeting 2019](#), we again see the increasing need for student travel grants. This year, AGU received well over 1,900 applications—up nearly 60% from 2018. Support AGU's student members by [donating to the Austin Endowment for Student Travel](#). **All gifts through 31 December will be matched.**

A note about sessions:

Section members have been notified about their abstract selections and timing of sessions. Hopefully conflicts are minimized. Again, thanks to the session conveners who organized the sessions. An important note for next year: AGU rules say that session conveners cannot give oral presentations in their own sessions if they are also session chairs (poster presentations are allowed by conveners in their own sessions). This is different from most other conferences in our field. Please keep this in mind when you think about convening a session next year.

Please also, if you are attending Fall AGU, consider volunteering to be a judge for the **OSPA, the Outstanding Student Paper Award**. OSPA liaisons for each session with student papers are soliciting judges.

Looking forward to seeing many of you at 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: Mars DAP, Step-2 proposals: 11/20/2019
- ROSES-2019: PICASSO, Step-2 proposals: 11/20/2019
- ROSES-2019: PS Early Career Award: 12/2/2019

Upcoming Conferences

- **Dec 9-12:** 1st Int'l Orbital Debris Conference, Sugarland, TX

Planetary Sciences Announcements/Updates

1. Tenure-track faculty position in Planetary Science at the Univ. of Michigan

The Department of Climate and Space Sciences and Engineering in the College of Engineering at the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor invites applications for a tenure track faculty position in the field of planetary science. Although the position is open to all ranks, we especially seek candidates at the Assistant Professor level. We look for candidates who are capable of developing an internationally recognized research program, successfully competing for external funding, mentoring doctoral students, and participating in our educational programs at the graduate and undergraduate levels. We welcome applications from candidates whose research addresses cross-disciplinary areas that build upon our existing strengths in climate science (including radiative transfer, atmospheric dynamics/chemistry and cryospheric processes), composition, structure, chemistry, and the origin and

evolution of planetary atmospheres, planetary surface-atmosphere coupling, and the development of space instrumentation and missions. We are especially interested in candidates with a strong motivation for building bridges between planetary science, including exoplanets, and the climate and space science research programs in our department.

Applications should include a cover letter, CV, research and teaching statements, a statement describing any activities, contributions, or plans related to supporting diversity, equity, and inclusion, and a list of four references with contact details. **For full consideration, applications compiled into a single PDF should be received before November 15th, 2019.** Applications should be addressed to clasp-fac-search@umich.edu. Questions about the position or application process can be directed to the search committee chair Jeremy Bassis (jbassis@umich.edu).

University of Michigan is committed to diversity, equity and inclusion. CLASP and the College of Engineering are especially interested in exceptionally well qualified candidates who will contribute, through their research, teaching, and service, to the diversity and excellence of the academic community. Women, minorities, individuals with disabilities, and veterans are encouraged to apply. The University is also responsive to the needs of dual-career couples. The University is a non-discriminatory, affirmative action Employer.

Michigan Engineering's vision is to be the world's preeminent college of engineering serving the common good. This global outlook, leadership focus, and service commitment permeate our culture. Our vision is supported by a mission and values that, together, provide the framework for all that we do. Information about our vision, mission and values can be found at: <http://strategicvision.engin.umich.edu/>.

The University of Michigan has a storied legacy of commitment to Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI). The Michigan Engineering component of the University's comprehensive, five-year, DEI strategic plan—with updates on our programs and resources dedicated to ensuring a welcoming, fair, and inclusive environment—can be found at: <http://www.engin.umich.edu/college/about/diversity>.

2. Postdoctoral position in Early Mars Geochemistry

The Department of Planetology and Habitability at the Centro de Astrobiología (CAB) invites applications for one postdoctoral position to support investigations on the geochemical nature of the early Mars environments. We are seeking enthusiastic and excellent candidates to join a planetary science team funded by the European Research Council (ERC), working with Dr. Alberto Fairén in the Project "MarsFirstWater" ([ERC Consolidator Grant](#)) broadening the efforts of the Project "icyMARS" ([ERC Starting Grant](#)).

Applicants should have a recent Ph.D. in Geochemistry, and a background in Mars research and Planetary Science.

The position, placed in Madrid, would be for two years, with possible extension to a third year contingent upon satisfactory performance. Benefits include working in a young enthusiastic team at the leading Astrobiology institution in Europe, full social benefits according to the Spanish social care system, and a very competitive salary.

Applicants should send a letter of interest, a curriculum with a list of publications, a brief (maximum two pages) statement of research interests, and a list of three references, **no later than December 31 2019**, to Alberto Fairén (agfairen@cab.inta-csic.es).

The starting date is negotiable, but should be no later than March 1, 2020.