

MEPAG VM 13

Introduction

R. Aileen Yingst, MEPAG Chair

27 September 2021

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Congratulations to Odyssey on its 20th anniversary this year!

Mars Exploration Program Analysis Group (MEPAG)

Agenda and Logistics:

- Please mute your phone
- Use chat box on WebEx; moderators will track questions
- Feedback/questions during and after meeting?
→ MEPAGmeetingqs@jpl.nasa.gov
- Presentations and recording will be online after meeting

MEPAG VM13 September 27, 2021			
Agenda Version v4 9-15-2021			
PDT	Topic	Speaker	EDT
10:00 AM	MEPAG Update	R. A. Yingst	1:00 PM
10:15 AM	MEP Status	E. Ianson M. Meyer	1:15 PM
10:55 AM	MEPO Status	J. Parrish	1:55 PM
11:05 AM	Workshop Announcement	C. Edwards, S. Curry	2:05 PM
11:15 AM	MSR Science Planning Group 2 (MSPG2)	Meyer/Kminek/Carrier	2:15 PM
11:45 AM	Discussion	All	2:45 PM
12:00 PM	Break		3:00 PM
12:10 PM	MAVEN Announcement	B. Jakosky	3:10 PM
12:15 PM	InSight: Status and Results	W. B. Banerdt	3:15 PM
12:30 PM	MSL Curiosity Status	A. Fraeman	3:30 PM
12:45 PM	M2020 Perseverance Campaign Status	K. Farley, K. Stack	3:45 PM
1:15 PM	HEOMD Perspective: New conversations about integrating science into human exploration	J. Bleacher J. Robinson	4:15 PM
1:35 PM	Discussion	All	4:35 PM
2:00 PM	End		5:00 PM

Mars Exploration Program Analysis Group (MEPAG)

MEPAG Programmatics

- Steering Committee (Chair: R. Aileen Yingst (PSI), appointed June 2019)
 - W. Calvin (Univ. Nevada Reno)
 - J. Eigenbrode (GSFC; rotating off)
 - D. Banfield (Cornell)
 - J. Filiberto (LPI; IDEA representative)
 - S. Hubbard (Stanford University)
 - S.S. Johnson (Georgetown University)
 - K. Lynch (LPI; IDEA representative)
 - J. Johnson (past Chair, JHU/APL)
 - M. Meyer (NASA HQ)
 - D. Beaty, R. Zurek (JPL)
 - J. Bleacher/P. Niles (HEOMD, NASA HQ) Ex Officio members
- Goals Committee (D. Banfield, Chair)
 - Goal I <Life> (J. Stern, GSFC; A. Davila, ARC)
 - Goal II <Climate> (D. Brain (Univ. Colorado), Claire Newman (Aeolis Research))
 - Goal III <Geology> (B. Horgan, Purdue, Becky Williams, PSI)
 - Goal IV <Human Exploration> (J. Bleacher, NASA HQ HEOMD; M. Rucker, P. Niles JSC)

Mars Exploration Program Analysis Group (MEPAG)



R. Aileen Yingst
PSI
MEPAG Chair



Jeff Johnson,
JHU/APL
Past Chair



Wendy Calvin
UNR



Scott
Hubbard
Stanford U.



Sarah Stewart
Johnson
Georgetown



Don Banfield
Goals
Committee
Cornell U. Chair



Jen Eigenbrode
GSFC (rotating off)



Justin Filiberto
LPI
IDEA Rep



Kennda Lynch
LPI
IDEA Rep

Michael Meyer
NASA HQ



Rich Zurek
MPO/JPL



Dave Beaty
MSR/JPL

Steering Committee

Jake Bleacher
NASA HQ



Paul Niles
JSC



Mars Program Office associates (Jet Propulsion Laboratory)



Brandi Carrier



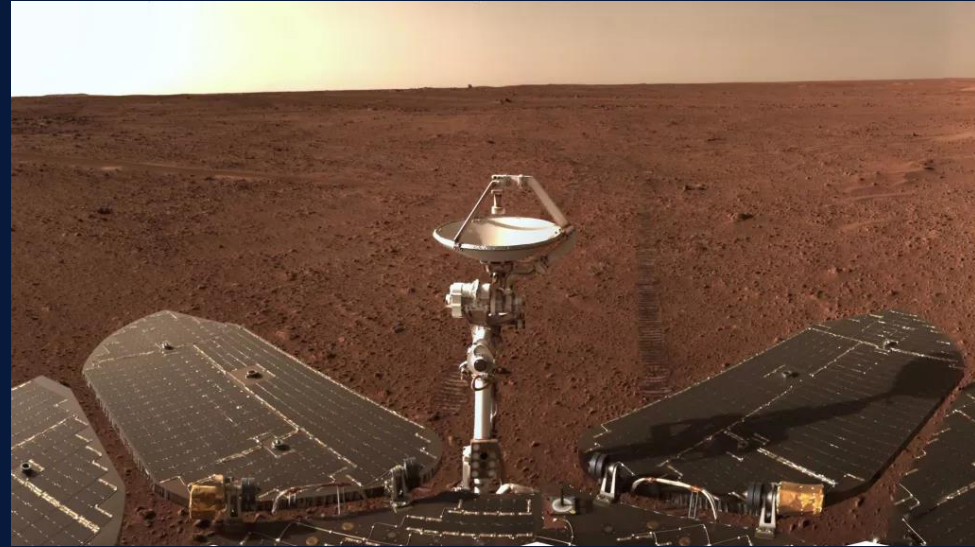
Barbara Saltzberg



Sona Hosseini

Updates since VM12

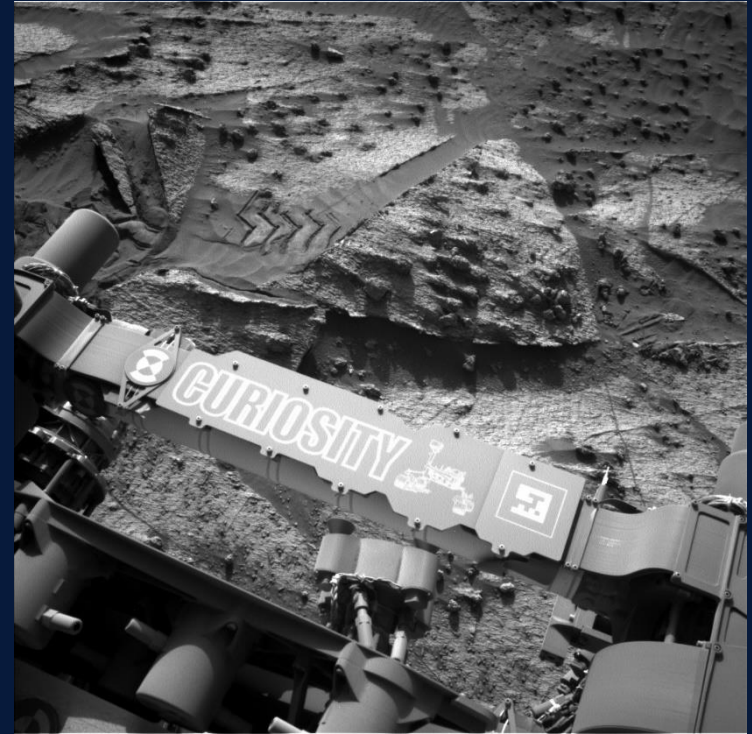
- Call for Applications to the Measurements Definition Team for International Mars Ice Mapper
 - Call released July 26; applications were due August 23.
- MEPAG Steering Committee vacancy
 - Steering Committee released a call for indications of interest; goal is to have an individual in place by the next MEPAG meeting



China's Zhurong Mars rover captured this panorama of the Red Planet. Visible in the foreground are the rover's solar panels and communications equipment. (Image credit: CNSA)

Updates since VM12

- MEPAG administrative updates
 - LPI awarded a contract to provide support to all AGs for running conferences and other administrative duties; timeline for implementation TBD.
 - Closed-captioning – please note the shared link
 - Website is being reworked and updated.



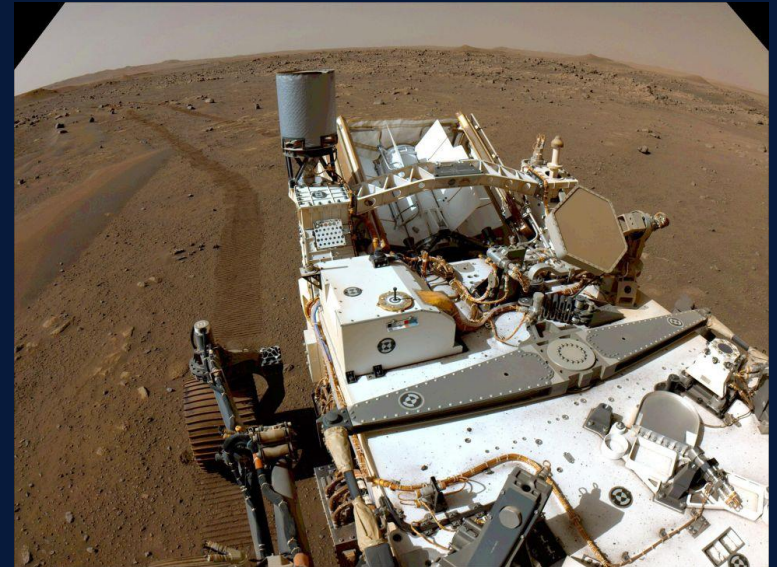
Curiosity Left Navcam image acquired sol 3247, showing crushed and broken nodules. Credits: NASA/JPL-Caltech. [Download image](#) ›

Decadal Survey tentative schedule

- NASA-NASEM negotiate Statement of Task Done
https://sites.nationalacademies.org/SSB/SSB_198165
- Web Site opens for White Paper Done
- Co-Chairs for DS announced (Canup, Christensen) Done
- Deadline for *Science* White Paper Submittal Done
- DS Steering Committee/Panel Chairs organize Done
 - Sign up at the NAS website for updates of open sessions
- First complete draft of survey report assembled ~10/2021
- Final Report released March 2022 (LPSC)

Other Upcoming Mars Activities

- [Geological Society of America Annual Meeting \(in-person and virtual\)](#)
 - October 10-13, 2021
- [AMES MCMC Legacy Model Tutorial](#)
 - November 2-4, 2021
- [Workshop on Low-Cost Mission Concepts for Mars](#)
 - January 11-13, 2022
- [MEPAG Annual Meeting \(in-person?\)](#)
 - Late January, 2022 (TBD)



M2020 Navcam view of rover tracks following its longest autonomous drive, July 1, 2021.

Mars Exploration Program Analysis Group (MEPAG)

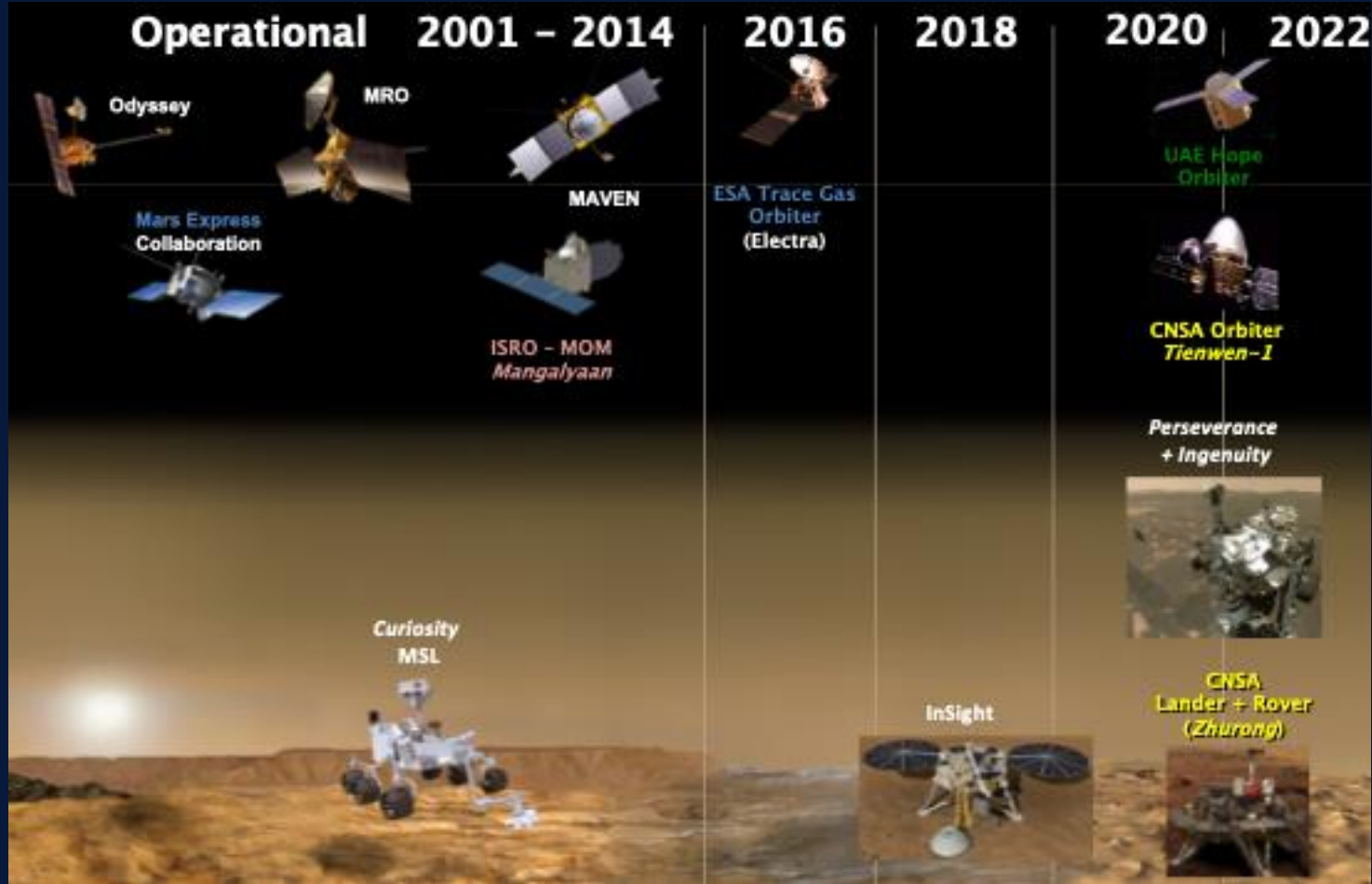


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Backup slides

Mars Exploration Program Analysis Group (MEPAG)



ExoMars
Lander + Rover
in 2023

MEPAG Active Findings

Mars Sample Return

- MEPAG commends the great effort between the Mars Exploration Program (MEP) and the Mars Sample Return (MSR) program to communicate smoothly and effectively, including the MOA between MSR & MEP. MEPAG will continue to assess how well the organization, balancing of duties, and lines of communication are working, as the challenges of coordinating a complex, international program arise.

Mars Exploration Program

- MEPAG encourages NASA to address the important MASWG report requested by the mid-term Decadal review. MEPAG believes that it defines the non-MSR aspects of the MEP and as a standalone report, it should be assessed on its own rather than waiting for the Decadal Survey report. MEPAG is ready to stand up committees that would investigate further the recommendations of this report.

MEPAG Active Findings

Mars Exploration Program – Mars Ice Mapper

- The community continues to follow the progress of Mars Ice Mapper, and recommends early input from the Mars community as plans develop.

NASA Humans to Mars

- MEPAG is excited about the first stages of discussions regarding humans to Mars but is concerned regarding the lack of input the Mars community has had in the initial formation of science objectives for human exploration of Mars. Science community input into HEOMD architectures at the earliest stages will be crucial for coordination and better understanding of knowledge needed for a successful human mission to Mars. MEPAG intends to continue to publicize and support efforts that seek to broaden community input and open discussion, especially early in the process before any major architectural decisions are made.