

Information about the Planetary Decadal Survey (DS)
In preparation for the next Planetary DS, focused on ~2023-2032

Provided to the community by MPO/MEPAG

Last updated: June 15, 2020

Send suggestions for additions to MEPAGmeetingQs@jpl.nasa.gov.

The statement of task and official website for the Planetary Science and Astrobiology Decadal Survey 2023-2032

- <https://www.nationalacademies.org/our-work/planetary-science-and-astrobiology-decadal-survey-2023-2032> or https://sites.nationalacademies.org/SSB/SSB_198165 (redirects to the same site)
- The Chairs are Phil Christensen (ASU) and Robin Canup (SwRI).
- The DS schedule, based on information on the official website and presentations:
 - Sept 2019: organizing meeting and town hall at EPSC-DPS
 - Nov 2019: LPI launches white paper proposal website
 - Dec 2019: DS town hall at AGU meeting
 - Jan 2020: National Academies adopts statement of task (see [site](#) above)
 - Jan 2020: Proposals submitted to NASA/NSF and funded; first of community/early-career webinars
 - March 27, 2020: [Website](#) opened for white paper submission; virtual meeting to share information about Decadal Survey with Early Career community members (replaced in-person LPSC event)
 - July 15, 2020: Deadline for submission for **science** white papers
 - August 15, 2020: Deadline for submission for **mission concept** white papers
 - September July 15, 2020: Deadline for submission for **all other** white papers
 - August/September 2020: committee/panel meetings, respectively, begin
 - ~October 2021: First complete draft of survey report assembled
 - By March 31, 2022: Survey report released
- Nominations were due by May 1st. Self-nominations were welcomed.
 - Only eligibility restriction: First authors of mission-focused white papers (and PIs of ongoing mission concept studies) cannot serve on the steering group or on the any panel considering their mission.
- Information about white paper specifications and how to be involved:
 - [Vimeo recording](#) of a virtual informational meeting about writing white papers (May 7, 2020)
 - White paper [specifications](#)
- There will be a number of Early-career events to share information about the process, see www.nas.edu/planetarydecadal.
 - Graduate students will be recruited to take notes at Decadal Survey meetings and will receive an honorarium for that work (but no support for travel expenses). A call for volunteers will come out after the meeting schedule/locations are known.
 - Additional information about Early Career Participation Options are listed [here](#) (linked from main site)

Web-forums for community collaboration on white papers

- By Lunar and Planetary Institute (LPI), all planetary topics:
https://www.lpi.usra.edu/decadal_whitepaper_proposals/
- By AAS Division of Planetary Sciences (DPS), all planetary topics including “State of the Profession”-related white paper topics (and contains links to AG pages):
<https://dps.aas.org/decadal-2022-hub>

- By MEPAG, Mars-related topics (and contains links to other AG pages):
<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1EOQRc5kYn5ZgIhEuZfEXQVApBpKpXMU-KZaJdLm2GxI/edit?usp=sharing>

Presentations and Reports generated in preparation for the next Planetary DS

- Presentations by David Smith or Colleen Hartman (NASEM)
 - [Vimeo recording](#) of a virtual informational meeting about writing white papers (May 7, 2020)
 - OPAG March 2020: <https://www.lpi.usra.edu/opag/meetings/feb2020/presentations/Hartman.pdf>
 - [MEPAG 36](#) (July 2019): https://mepag.jpl.nasa.gov/meeting/2018-04/15_Smith-Academies.MEPAG-2018.pdf
 - 9th Mars (lunch presentation: July 2019): https://mepag.jpl.nasa.gov/DecadalSurvey/Decadal-Surveys_9thMars.pdf
- Presentations and discussion at [September 2019 CAPS meeting](#)
- [Report from NASA Committee on Astrobiology and Planetary Science \(CAPS\). Getting Ready for the Next Planetary Science Decadal Survey](#) (2017)

Discussion about the upcoming Planetary DS within MEPAG

- MEPAG discussion about preparations for the DS
 - [MEPAG 36: MEPAG Preparations for the Next Decadal Survey](#) (by J.R. Johnson, MEPAG Chair)
 - [MEPAG VM7: Update on Decadal Survey Presentations](#) (by R.A. Yingst, MEPAG Chair)
- Topics of study and high-priority questions
 - [MEPAG 37: Big Questions](#) (by R.A. Yingst, MEPAG Chair)
 - [MEPAG 36: Forum presentations on mission concepts](#) (listed and linked below the agenda) + [Summary](#) (J.R. Johnson, MEPAG Chair)
- Facilitation of community information and collaboration
 - [MEPAG 37 pres](#) (by S. Diniega, MPO/JPL)
 - [MEPAG VM6 pres](#) (by S. Diniega, MPO/JPL)

Other recent community-sourced listings of high-priority science

- [2018 MEPAG Goals Document](#) (note that a revision is ongoing Fall 2019-Spring 2020)
- [Ninth International Conference on Mars: Integration Reports](#) (2019)
- [MEPAG studies](#), including
 - [Ice and Climate Evolution Science Analysis Group](#) (ICE-SAG, 2019)
 - [Next Mars Orbiter Science Analysis Group](#) (NEX-SAG, 2017)
- [International Mars Sample Return Objectives & Samples Team \(iMOST\) report](#) (2018; behind paywall – also see documents posted on [MEPAG, under SMD/IMEWG](#))
- [NASA workshop: Vision 2050 reports](#), including a [Mars-focused summary](#)
- Mars conference reports, including
 - [6th International Conference on Mars Polar Science](#) (2016; behind paywall)
 - [Amazonian Climate Workshop](#) (2018; behind paywall)
 - [Biosignatures Workshop](#) (2016; behind paywall)
- [Keck Institute of Space Studies](#) reports, including
 - [Unlocking the climate record stored within Mars' Polar Layered Deposits](#) (2017-18)
 - [Mars X: Mars subsurface exploration](#) (2018)

Information about the last Planetary Decadal Survey (*Visions and Voyages (V&V): 2013-2022*)

- [Official NASA page on the last Planetary DS](#)
 - Contains links to committee meetings, community white papers, mission and technology studies, NASA response to *V&V*, etc.
- [Visions and Voyages, the document](#)
- [Planetary Science blog, “Primer for the Planetary DS”](#) (specifically about *V&V*)
- [Mid-term assessment \(Visions into Voyages, 2017\)](#), includes committee meeting content and link to report

Information about NASEM and DS, including for other NASA Communities

- https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Planetary_Science_Decadal_Survey, includes listing of historical NASA directional studies
- [Links to the most recent NASA DS \(Astrophysics, Planetary, Heliophysics, Earth\)](#)
 - [NASA Astrophysics DS](#) (kicked off in 2019)
 - [Community preparation for the NASA Astrophysics DS](#)