

2nd Information Circular
20th MEPAG Meeting
March 3-4, 2009

Letter of Invitation

Members of the Mars community,

I cordially invite you to attend the next meeting of the Mars Exploration Program Analysis Group (MEPAG), scheduled for **March 3-4, 2009** at the **Holiday Inn Rosslyn Westpark, Arlington, VA.**

This meeting comes at a critical juncture. Our existing missions at Mars will have completed another year of exciting science and exploration, and two missions in development, MSL and MAVEN, are scheduled for launch in 2011 and 2013, respectively. Our planning focus is now on the last half of the decade—the launch opportunities of 2016, 2018, and 2020. It will be very important for MEPAG to participate in the process of updating our exploration strategies, the definition of the mission options, and the mission sequencing that leads to an architecture. Furthermore, the National Academy is starting the next Planetary Science Decadal Survey with crucial contributions from the community expected this year, and it will be important for us to be prepared to respond to their requests for input.

Key agenda topics will include:

- Discussion of current Mars program status
- Future planning for NASA's Mars mission activity, including draft architectures for the next decade. We will include discussions of international Mars interests, options, and priorities for the next decade. Development of priorities for the Decadal Survey.
- Planning for future MEPAG work.

The meeting is open to all members of the Mars science community, and I welcome our international colleagues. In addition, we will attempt to broadcast the meeting via WebEx for those who cannot attend in person, although this may be dependent on infrastructure at the hotel.

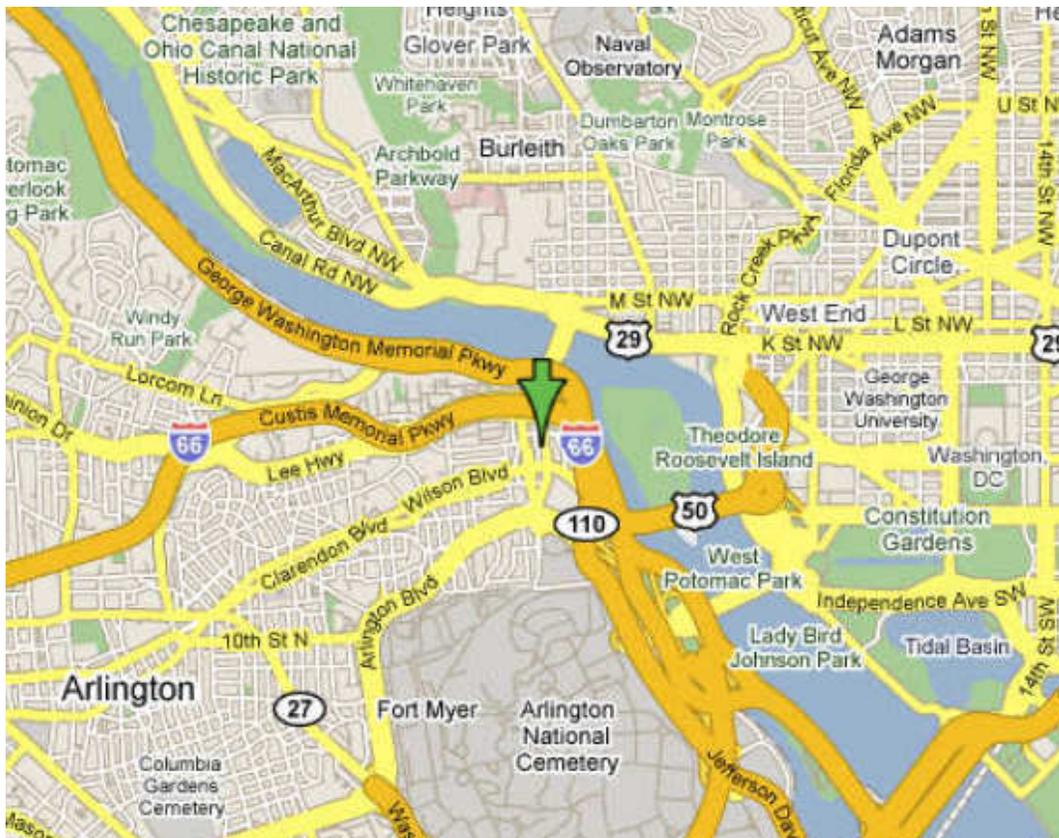
I look forward to seeing as many of you there as possible.

Sincerely,
Dr. Jack Mustard
MEPAG Chair

Agenda for MEPAG meeting of March 3-4, 2009 in Arlington, VA			
<u>Start</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Agenda Item</u>	
Note: Unless otherwise indicated, all time speakers should assume that 30-50% of their time allocation is for discussion.			
Day 1 – Tuesday March 3, 2009			
08:00 AM	00:15	Welcome; MEPAG Purpose, Scope, Expected Results	J. Mustard
08:15 AM	00:30	Mars Program Director's Comments	D. McCuiston
08:45 AM	00:30	Mars Exploration Program Update	F. Li
09:15 AM	00:20	Mars Science Status	M. Meyer
09:35 AM	00:20	European Space Agency Update	J. Vago
09:55 AM	00:15	Break	
10:10 AM	00:15	Canadian Space Agency Update	Alain Berinstain
10:25 AM	00:15	Japanese Aerospace Exploration Agency Update/MELOS	S. Sasaki/T. Satoh
10:40 AM	00:30	MSL Science Status (including landing site)	J. Grotzinger
11:10 AM	00:20	ExoMars Status	J. Vago
11:30 AM	00:20	Discussion	
11:50 AM	01:30	Lunch	
01:20 PM		MEPAG inputs to Decadal Survey	
01:20 PM	00:20	Decadal Survey Introduction and Process	D. Smith
01:40 PM	00:40	Planning and draft MEPAG inputs to Decadal Survey with discussion	J. Johnson
02:20 PM		Next Decade Planning--Mission Opportunities for '16, '18, '20	
02:20 PM	01:00	Presentations and discussion	P. Christensen
03:20 PM	00:15	Break	
03:35 PM	01:00	Presentations and discussion	
04:35 PM	00:30	Daily wrap-up	J. Mustard
05:05 PM		Adjourn	
Day 2 – Wednesday March 4, 2009			
08:30 AM	00:30	2016-18-20 Building Blocks--Definition, Forward Planning	TBD
09:00 AM	00:30	Discussion	
09:30 AM		Meeting reports	
09:30 AM	00:30	Lunar Roadmap	J. Volosin
10:00 AM	00:10	Discussion	
10:10 AM	00:15	Break	
10:25 AM		Meeting reports	
10:25 AM	00:20	Mars Climate Modeling Center (MCMC)	J. Hollingsworth
10:45 AM	00:20	Mars Atmospheric Modeling Workshop	J. Levine
11:05 AM	00:20	Report on Ground Truth from Mars Workshop	C. Shearer
11:25 AM	00:20	Second Workshop on Mars Valley Networks	R. Craddock
11:45 AM	01:30	Lunch	
01:15 PM	00:20	Workshop on Martian Phyllosilicates	Jean-Pierre Bibring
01:35 PM	00:20	Planetary Dunes Workshop	L. Fenton
01:55 PM	00:35	Open discussion	
02:30 PM	00:30	Future Planning for MEPAG Activities	J. Mustard
03:00 PM		Adjourn	

Basic Logistics

- Date: Tuesday and Wednesday, March 3-4, 2009. Starts at 8 AM on March 3; ends at ~3 PM on March 4 so that participants can catch the evening flights home.
- Location: The Holiday Inn Rosslyn Westpark, 1900 North Fort Myer Drive, Arlington, VA 22209. Phone: (703) 807-2000.
<http://www.ichotelsgroup.com/h/d/hi/1/en/hotel/WASWP/welcome?start=1>
- Hotel Reservation Information: The Holiday Inn Rosslyn Westpark (703-807-2000) is making 65 rooms available to us for arrival on March 2 and departing as late as March 4 at the government rate of \$209.00 plus 10.25% tax. To secure a reservation, please contact the hotel directly and specify that you want the “MEP” rate and you will be attending the MEPAG meeting. The deadline when the hotel will release any unreserved rooms from the MEPAG block for general sale is **February 17, 2009**; this was negotiated especially for this meeting so please make your reservation ASAP.
- Transportation: **By Air**: 3 miles from Ronald Reagan National Airport (DCA), Shuttle Charge (one way): \$13.00 (USD), Taxi Charge (one way): ~\$15.00 (USD); 25 miles from Dulles International Airport (IAD), Shuttle Charge (one way): \$40.00 (USD), Taxi Charge (one way): ~\$45.00 (USD). **By subway**: For locals, Rosslyn has a subway stop on the Washington Metro system (0.01 MI southeast of hotel).



- Meeting RSVP: So that we can plan the meeting logistics (e.g., seating, morning and afternoon refreshments, name badges, handouts, etc.), we request that all participants RSVP by **February**

23, 2009 to Joyce Pulliam (Joyce.N.Pulliam@jpl.nasa.gov). (However, an RSVP is not required to attend the meeting.)

WebEx Logistics

Directions will be provided in a later announcement.

If you need additional information, please contact Charles Budney, MEPAG meeting coordinator, charles.j.budney@jpl.nasa.gov, phone = 818-354-3981, FAX = 818-393-3800. If you have updates to the master MEPAG e-mail list (either correction of faulty e-mail addresses, addition of Mars science colleagues who have been inadvertently omitted), or deletions, please contact Joyce Pulliam (Joyce.N.Pulliam@jpl.nasa.gov).