

1st Information Circular
21th MEPAG Meeting
July 29-30, 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 **July 29-30, 2009** at **Brown University, Providence, Rhode Island**.

This meeting will focus on the Mars Community's inputs into the Planetary Decadal Survey and will include summary briefings of reports as well as ample opportunity to respond to the reports. This is an important time for MEPAG as the decisions made by the Decadal Survey will strongly influence what planetary missions fly in the upcoming decade. The white papers prepared by the community are going to be critical inputs to the Decadal survey and this is a good opportunity to participate.

Key agenda topics will include:

- Discussion of current Mars program status. We will include discussions of international Mars interests, options, and priorities for the next decade.
- Planning and position papers for input into 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 broadcast the meeting via WebEx for those who cannot attend in person.

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

Sincerely,
Dr. Jack Mustard
MEPAG Chair

Basic Logistics

- Date: Wednesday and Thursday, July 29-30, 2009. Starts at 8:30 AM and ends at 5:00 PM on the 29th. Starts at 8:00 AM and ends at 3:00 PM on the 30th.
- Location: Brown University, Providence, Rhode Island, Barus & Holley Building, Rooms 166 and 168.
- Lodging Information: Following is a list of hotels in the area for your convenience in making your reservations. We have not blocked any rooms for this event.

Biltmore Hotel

Price: starting at \$169.00 plus tax

Distance: 0.88 miles

Phone: (401) 421-0700

Website: www.providencebiltmore.com

Courtyard by Marriott

Price: starting at \$169.00 plus tax

Distance: 0.88 miles

Phone: (401) 272-1191

Website: www.marriott.com/hotels/travel/pvddt-courtyard-providence-downtown/

Marriott-Providence

Price: starting at \$149.00 plus tax

Distance: 1.35 miles

Phone: (401) 272-2400

Website: www.marriott.com/hotels/travel/pvdri-providence-marriott-downtown/

Radisson Hotel on the Harbor

Price: starting at \$129.00 plus tax

Distance: 1.04 miles

Phone: (401) 272-5577

Website: www.radisson.com/providenceri

Saunders's Inn at Brown

Price: flat rate of \$120.00; only 24 rooms

Distance: on campus

Phone: (401) 863-7500

Website: www.brown.edu/Facilities/Saunders_Inn/

The Westin

Price: starting at \$175.00 plus tax

Distance: 1.13 miles

Phone: (401) 598-8000

Website: www.westin.com/Providence

Hampton Inn Providence

Price: starting at \$144.00 plus tax

Distance: 0.88 miles

Phone: (401) 272-1077

Website: <http://hamptoninn1.hilton.com>

- Transportation:

Airports: T.F. Green Airport, in Warwick, Rhode Island (PVD), is serviced by numerous domestic airlines, including Southwest, Delta, United, and US Airways. Boston Logan Airport (BOS) is an hour north of Providence and is serviced by both domestic and international airlines. T.F. Green Airport is approximately 15 miles from campus.

From T.F. Green Airport to Providence, a taxi ride is ~\$30.00. Airport Taxi and Limo Service (actually a van shuttle service) offers an \$11.00 ride with a number of stops at Providence hotels and Brown. See their website for a schedule: <http://www.airporttaxiri.com/>

From Boston Logan Airport, Peter Pan bus line (peterpanbus.com) offers regularly scheduled trips to Providence with a link to downtown Providence. If you're traveling light, the Boston subway (the T) offers the silver line from Logan to South Station where you can connect to a train to Providence. For schedules, see www.mbta.com and select subway>silver line and then rail>Providence/Stoughton line. For subway tokens, use the vending machines located in the baggage claim areas. Logan Airport is approximately 55 miles from Providence.

From the hotels: Most of the hotels are approximately the same general distance from Brown University and can be walked in good weather with a steep hill climb up College Hill (fine for the fit or younger crowd, but others may arrive to the meeting huffing and puffing). Of course there are buses and trolleys available. An option is to take a ride through the tunnel, getting on at the bottom (Main Street) and getting off at the top (Thayer Street, the center of the Brown area). Cabs are also an option. Driving is discouraged because it often leads to distant parking lots.

General Information Web Addresses

Brown University: <http://www.brown.edu>

City of Providence: <http://www.ProvidenceRI.com>

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).

Maps of Providence area and Brown University.

Link to Providence area map: <http://www.mapquest.com/mq/10-nLrPpuXT>

See following page for Brown University map.



Search Brown

BUILDINGS

- ALL (246)
- ALUMNAE HALL
- ANDREWS HALL
- ANDREWS HOUSE
- ANGELL ST 127
- ANGELL ST 129
- ANGELL ST 169
- ANGELL ST 195
- ANNMARY BROWN MEMORIAL LIBRARY
- ARCHIBALD HALL: KEENEY QUAD
- ARNOLD LAB
- ACADEMIC (82)
- ADMINISTRATION (18)
- ATHLETICS (8)
- DINING (3)
- DORMITORY (48)
- COMMERCIAL (11)
- LIBRARY (5)
- RENTAL (35)
- STUDENT AC (6)
- SUPPORT (18)

BLUE LIGHTS

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