

Mars Exploration Program Analysis Group (MEPAG)

chartered by NASA HQ to assist in planning the scientific exploration of Mars

MEPAG Meeting
October 4, 2012
Monrovia, CA

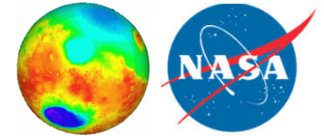


*MRO HiRISE/ CRISM / Brown/ U. Arizona
/ APL/ JPL/ NASA*

Dave Des Marais, *MEPAG Chair*

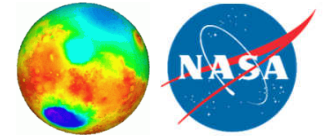
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Developments in Mars Exploration Since February 2012 MEPAG Meeting



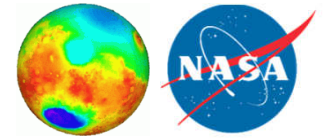
- Ongoing: Mars Atmosphere and Volatile Evolution Mission (MAVEN) is on course for launch in 2013
- Ongoing: Response to President's FY13 budget release
 - ❖ Inadequate funding for Decadal Survey's recommendations
 - ❖ Congressional support expressed for restoring some of the cut
- March: Mars Program Planning Group chartered
- June: Planetary Science Division Senior Review
- August: **MSL lands Aug 5/6 2012**
 - ❖ EDL system with "Skycrane" performs as planned
 - ❖ MSL Surface Operations going well
- August 20: Discovery Program selects *InSight* mission
 - ❖ Terrestrial planet geophysics mission with Mars as target
- September: MPPG report released
 - ❖ Presentations made/to be made to CAPS / PSS / MEPAG
- October 4: MEPAG Meeting!

Goals for October 4 MEPAG Meeting



1. Discuss Mars Program planning in light of the President's proposed budget
 - ❖ Final Report from the joint MEPAG/SBAG Precursor Strategic Analysis Group (P-SAG)
 - ❖ ***Results from the Mars Program Planning Group (MPPG) regarding options for an integrated Mars program***
 - ❑ Capture the community's reaction for PSS
 - ❖ Current interactions with Human Exploration (HEOMD)
2. Receive an update on ESA's Mars missions, current & planned
3. Overview of scientific objectives and plans for *InSight*, the Discovery Program's recently selected Mars mission
4. Discuss updates to the MEPAG Goals document
5. Hear selected meeting reports:
 - ❑ Workshop on the Mantle of Mars
 - ❑ Workshop on Planetary Caves
6. Discuss possible new analysis initiatives

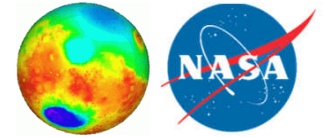
MEPAG Agenda, Oct 4, 2012



Day 1 – Thursday, October 4, 2012

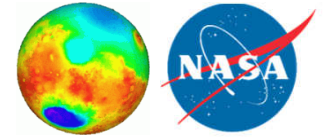
08:15 AM	0:15	Welcome; Goals of this Meeting, Introduction to the Agenda	D. Des Marais, MEPAG Chair
08:30 AM	0:30	NASA: State of the Mars Program	D. McCuistion/M. Meyer
09:00 AM	0:30	Report from the MEPAG P-SAG	D. Beaty/M. Carr
09:30 AM	0:15	Break	
09:45 AM	1:30	Report of the MPPG	O. Figueroa
11:15 AM	0:45	Discussion	
12:00 PM	1:30	Lunch	
01:30 PM	0:30	ESA: State of the Program	J. Vago
02:00 PM	0:20	Report from the Human Exploration Program	M. Wargo
02:20 PM	0:30	MSL Update	M. Meyer
02:50 PM	0:10	Break	
03:00 PM	0:20	Goals Document: recent updates and future plans	V. Hamilton
03:20 PM	0:15	MAVEN status	B. Jakosky
03:35 PM	0:30	Discovery Program: Insight mission	B. Banerdt
04:05 PM		Mars Meeting Reports	
04:05 PM	0:15	The Mantle of Mars: Insights from Theory, Geophysics, High-Pressure Studies, and Meteorites	J. Papike/C. Shearer/D. Beaty
04:20 PM	0:15	First International Planetary Caves Workshop: Implications for Astrobiology, Climate, Detection, and Exploration (October, 2011)	P. Boston - via video
04:35 PM	0:25	Discussion/Future Planning for MEPAG Activities	D. Des Marais
05:00 PM		Adjourn	

MEPAG Agenda, Print Only



print only Mars Meeting Reports	
Fifth International Conference on Mars Polar Science and Exploration (September, 2011)	S. Clifford
Third International Conference on Early Mars: Geologic and Hydrologic Evolution, Physical and Chemical Environments, and the Implications for Life (May 21-25, 2012)	S. Clifford
Workshop on Mars - Connecting Planetary Scientists in Europe	Akos Kereszturi

DRAFT: MEPAG Letter Items



Response to MPPG briefing:

- MEPAG commends the MPPG and finds that the options outlined in their report are quite comprehensive and are consistent with findings thus far by MEPAG Science Analysis Groups, the most recent of which is the Precursor-SAG.
- Orlando and his team are to be congratulated for crafting exploration pathways that:
 - Address high-priority science as endorsed in the Decadal Survey while also addressing many Strategic Knowledge Gaps
 - Identifying key technologies to be demonstrated, and
 - Developing implementation paths that significantly reduce the cost of caching missions.