

1st Information Circular
29th MEPAG Meeting
May 13-14, 2014
Washington, DC, USA

Letter of Invitation

Members of the Mars community,

I cordially invite you to attend the 2014 face-to-face meeting of the Mars Exploration Program Analysis Group (MEPAG), scheduled for 1.5 days, May 13-14, 2014, at the Crystal City Marriott in the Washington, DC area.

There have been many developments in Mars exploration over the past year: Discoveries by Curiosity and other operating Mars missions, the release of the AO and the receipt of instrument proposals for the 2020 Mars Rover, the launches of NASA's MAVEN and ISRO's MOM missions to Mars, the implications for Mars and Planetary Science of the passage of the FY14 budget and release of the President's proposed FY15 budget, and the developing vision of human exploration at Mars.

This meeting will report on the implications of these events as well as the overall status of Mars exploration. Further, there will be a report from the ongoing MEPAG Special Regions Science Analysis Group.

Thus, key discussion topics will include:

- Discussion of the status of Mars exploration by NASA and other space agencies
- Interaction with the Human program (HEOMD)
- Report from the MEPAG Special Regions SAG
- Report on NASA and ESA landing site selection activities

This meeting will be followed, in the same venue, by the First Landing Site Workshop for the 2020 Mars Rover mission (TBC).

The meeting is open to all members of the Mars science community and I welcome our international colleagues. We will also broadcast the meeting via Adobe Connect for those who cannot attend in person.

I look forward to seeing as many of you as possible in Washington!

Sincerely,
Professor Lisa Pratt
MEPAG Chair

Directions for participating remotely will be provided in a later announcement.

Basic Logistics

- Date: Tuesday, May 13 – 8:30 AM until 5:30 PM.
Wednesday, May 14 – 8:30 AM until 12:00 PM.
- Location: Marriott Crystal City
1999 Jefferson Davis Highway
Arlington, VA 22202
(703) 413-5500
- Hotel Reservation Information: A block of rooms reserved at the rate of \$224.00 per night plus tax on a first-come, first-serve basis. Absolutely no smoking inside the 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 planning to attend in-person to RSVP by April 11, 2014 to Carla de la Paz (Paz@jpl.nasa.gov). Please note that an RSVP is not required to attend the meeting, but is strongly encouraged as it will assist us in our planning.

If you need additional information, please contact Amy Hale, MEPAG meeting coordinator (amy.s.hale@jpl.nasa.gov, phone (818)393-1186). 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 Carla de la Paz (Paz@jpl.nasa.gov)