Looking Ahead

- Trace Gas Orbiter (TGO) and Schiaparelli Lander arrive at Mars October 19
- Next Mars Orbiter studies continue, but the Objectives and Requirements Definition Team (ORDT) has been deferred to early 2017
  - See next slides
- Face to Face MEPAG meeting in Feb/March/April 2017 (TBD)
  - See later slide
- Participating in Panel on “Perspectives on the Future of Planetary Exploration”
  - 3rd International Workshop on Instrumentation for Planetary Missions October 24–27
- Formulation of new MEPAG Studies
  - See subsequent slides

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Future MEPAG Studies

✓ Next Mars Orbiter Science Team Organization / solicitation (AO)

➢ Studies in Preparation for next Decadal, NF candidates
  • Polar/Ice Science: Objectives and Mission Concepts
  • Astrobiology: How to search for extant life?
    ▪ Follow-on to Biosignatures workshop? To Special Regions SAG?
  • Network Science
  • Others?

➢ Other possible topics for MEPAG Study
  • HEO: Coordinate with Ben Bussey (e.g., science using proximity tele-
    -robotics); major meetings coming up may help refine topics
  • Small Satellite concepts for future observations
  • Ancillary science on the MAV-lander
  • Planetary Protection: Are there additional analysis activities (like a special
    regions study)?
Next Mars Orbiter Team Call

- Next Mars Orbiter will likely have payload capability beyond what it can afford to populate
  - The most basic concept includes telecommunications and a HiRISE-class imaging system

- International (and non-SMD Directorate) partnering can provide additional payload elements augmenting mission capabilities without significant additional cost to NASA

- Challenges:
  - How do we ensure that the total payload conducts a high-priority science mission, consistent with Decadal Survey?
    - MEP will work with international partners to define next level of detail
  - How do we craft opportunities for U.S. scientists to participate?
  - How do we select a science team that melds the various payload contributions into an optimal mission strategy and observing campaign?
  - How should that team and its competitive selection be organized?
    - Facility observatory approach (e.g., HST, Spitzer Space Telescope)
    - Team Leads, deputy team leaders, team members?

- Considers various options and present findings to MEP
  - Findings also presented to ORDT when commissioned
  - Findings provide a head-start on a draft AO for science team selection
  - Note: This is not the Objectives and Requirements Definition Team (ORDT)