

2nd Information Circular
36th MEPAG Meeting
April 3-5, 2018 @ Crystal City, Arlington, Virginia

Members of the Mars community,

I cordially invite you to participate in the 36th meeting of the Mars Exploration Program Analysis Group (MEPAG), scheduled for Tuesday-Thursday, April 3-5, 2018 and held at the [Crystal City Marriott at Reagan National Airport](#). Information about meeting logistics and the current agenda are listed on the following pages; this information is also posted to [the MEPAG Meeting 36 webpage](#).

A focus of this MEPAG meeting is preparation for the next Decadal Survey. MEPAG seeks to enable opportunities for identifying concepts in all mission classes that could make significant progress on compelling Mars science questions during 2023-2032. While the return of samples to be prepared by NASA's Mars 2020 rover continues to be a priority, there is a strong pool of concepts for (1) competed missions (including possible New Frontiers candidates), (2) small satellite missions enabled by strategic mission launch capabilities, and/or (3) follow-on flagship capabilities. These build on the extraordinary discoveries of past and ongoing missions, as well as new technological developments. MEPAG's goal is to generally support scientific mission concepts with enough detail to enable their serious consideration by the next Planetary Decadal Survey. In particular, we are interested in concepts that address high-priority science questions that could be addressed in parallel with or after Mars sample return. The forum on the afternoon of the first day has the main goal of identifying mission objectives and concepts that address high-priority Mars science questions, with an emphasis on the science that can be achieved over the next two decades. Over 20 abstracts were submitted for presentation at this forum (and these will shortly be posted to the meeting website), which should lead to some very diverse and interesting discussions. Discussion following this forum will aim to help later planning of studies or workshops commissioned by MEPAG or MEP to mature specific concepts or to define technological areas for potential later investment.

The meeting will also include Mars Exploration Program reports from NASA Headquarters, discussions regarding proposed changes to the MEPAG Goals Document from the polar science community, preparations for the next Decadal Survey and a summary of the first day's forum, status reports from operating and planned Mars missions and other space agencies, and reports from recent Mars-relevant workshops and conferences.

The meeting is open to all members of the Mars science and exploration communities and we welcome our international colleagues. We will also broadcast the meeting online for those who cannot attend in-person.

Sincerely,

Dr. Jeffrey R. Johnson
MEPAG Chair

If you have a suggestion for the agenda or a question about the meeting, please email mepagmeetingqs@jpl.nasa.gov.

MEPAG Meeting 36 Website

<https://mepag.jpl.nasa.gov/meetings.cfm?expand=m36>

MEPAG Meeting 36 Schedule

Tuesday, April 3rd – 8:15 AM until 6:00 PM EDT
Including a poster session 2:00 PM – 5:00 PM

Wednesday, April 4th – 8:15 AM until 6:00 PM EDT

Thursday, April 5th – 8:00 AM until 3:00 PM EDT

These are start/end times as listed in the current agenda. Please check [the meeting webpage](#) for the final agenda.

Some meeting logistics for those attending in-person

Location: Crystal City Marriott at Reagan National Airport
1999 Jefferson Davis Highway
Arlington, Virginia 22202 USA
Phone: 1-703-413-5500

- If you intend to attend MEPAG Meeting 36 in-person, please register at: <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSf5ryntC2pTy7D3rJTsxDRoibOMDVyaYmRYR0Hsb4IDf0BSSA/viewform>. Registration is not required for attendance, but aids with meeting planning and name badge printing. (Note that registration is completely separate from forecasting.) The online registration will be open until **March 23**.
- A hotel room block has been made available at \$253/night (GSA rate) for the nights of April 2-4 at the meeting venue; this room block will be open through **March 12**. To make a reservation at this rate, please use the following link: [Crystal City Marriott at Reagan National Airport GROUP RATE LINK](#). PLEASE NOTE: the regular room rate at this hotel may be lower than the GSA rate – so we recommend checking [the hotel site](#) without the meeting code before making use of the room block.
- Please note: We have one participant who is extremely allergic to fragrances, cleaners and smoke. For those attending in-person, we would like to ask that you consider her concerns and *refrain from using or bringing scented items to the meeting*. Your cooperation is greatly appreciated.
- If you have a special accommodation need, please email mepagmeetingqs@jpl.nasa.gov with information; we would like these meetings to be accessible and inclusive.

Adobe Connect Directions for the MEPAG Meeting

1. Go to: <https://ac.arc.nasa.gov/mepag>
2. Log in
 - a. If you are a NASA employee, you can use your NDC credentials to login (just like NASA webmail).
 - b. If you are not a NASA employee: Select the radio box next to "Enter as Guest," Please provide your full name and affiliation for our records, Click "Enter Room."
3. IMPORTANT NOTICE: This Adobe Connect service includes a feature that allows the audio streaming automatically through your speakers. Additionally, we expect to have a call-in phone line for listening and will post that information when available.
4. As is typically done at these meetings, we plan to webcast all oral presentations and discussion periods. Questions and comments from remote attenders can be submitted via the chat text window and will be conveyed verbally to presenters (time-permitting).

Preliminary Agenda for MEPAG Meeting 36 on April 3-5 2018*Location: Crystal City Marriott at Reagan National Airport*

Start	Time	V7 Agenda (as of 03/06/2018)	
Note: All speakers should include time for discussion. All times are EDT			
Day 1 - Tuesday, April 3, 2018			
Mars Exploration Program Reports			
08:15 AM	0:30	Welcome; Meeting Preview, Desired Outcomes MEPAG Updates, new Committee Members	J. Johnson, MEPAG Chair
08:45 AM	0:30	NASA PSD Report: Looking Ahead	J. Green TBC
09:15 AM	0:45	NASA: MEP Welcome & Status	J. Watzin
10:00 AM	0:15	Discussion	All
10:15 AM	0:15	Break	
Potential MEPAG Goals Revision: Polar Science			
10:30 AM	0:35	Polar Science Objectives & Investigations	I. Smith
11:05 AM	0:35	Recommendation from MEPAG Executive & Goals Committee	D. Banfield, J. Johnson
11:40 AM	0:20	Discussion	All
12:00 PM	1:00	LUNCH	
Forum: Mission Concepts for the 2020's & beyond			
01:00 PM	0:20	Forum Introduction: Mission Concepts for next Decadal Survey	J. Johnson
01:20 PM	0:40	Poster "Lightning" Talks	Poster Presenters
02:00 PM	3:00	Mars Mission Concepts: Poster Session	All
05:00 PM	1:00	Discussion: Paths to Next Decadal	J. Johnson lead
06:00 PM		End of Day 1	
Day 2 – Wednesday, April 4, 2018			
Decadal Survey Preparations			
08:15 AM	0:30	Reprise of Day 1 Activities & New Topics	J. Johnson
08:45 AM	0:15	Planetary Protection	L. Pratt
09:00 AM	0:15	Planetary Exploration Science Technology Office (PESTO)	C. Mercer
09:15 AM	0:15	Status: Mid-term Decadal Survey Report	L. Prockter
09:30 AM	0:20	Decadal Survey Look-Ahead	D. Smith
09:50 AM	0:25	Break	
10:15 AM	0:45	MEP / MSR Science	M. Meyer
11:00 AM	0:30	MEPAG Preparation for Decadal Survey	J. Johnson
11:30 AM	0:30	Overview of Mars Mission Concepts Forum	J. Johnson
12:00 PM	1:00	LUNCH	
Reports from Mars Missions I			
01:00 PM	0:30	InSight	B. Banerdt
01:30 PM	0:30	MAVEN Results	B. Jakosky
02:00 PM	0:15	MRO Results	L. Tamppari
02:15 PM	0:15	ODY Results	J. Plaut (TBC)
02:30 PM	0:30	Break	
03:00 PM	0:25	Mars Moons Exploration (MMX) & MEGANE	D. Lawrence
03:25 PM	0:25	Geodesy & Cartography WG; Phobos/Deimos Site WG	T. Duxbury
03:50 PM	0:30	United Arab Emirates Mission to Mars	S. Amiri

04:20 PM	0:25	Canadian Space Agency report (CSA)	V. Hipkin
04:45 PM	0:25	JWST and Mars	H. Hammel, S. Milam
05:10 PM	0:50	Reserved for other space agency reports	TBD
06:00 PM		End of Day 2	
Day 3 – Thursday, April 5, 2018			
Reports from Mars Missions II			
08:00 AM	0:20	MEx	D. Titov (remote)
08:20 AM	1:00	ExoMars: TGO & 2020 Rover	J. Vago
09:20 AM	1:00	2020 Rover	K. Farley, J. McNamee
10:20 AM	0:15	Break	
10:35 AM	0:20	MSL Results	A. Vasavada
10:55 AM	0:15	MER Results	A. Fraeman
Human Exploration & Commercial Space			
11:10 AM	0:20	HEOMD & Mars missions: Status	N. Suzuki
11:30 AM	0:20	Architecting Mars V (AM-V) Report	H. Thronson
11:50 AM	0:10	SMD: Looking ahead to Mars Human Exploration	R. Davis
12:00 PM	1:00	LUNCH	
Conference/Team Reports			
01:00 PM	0:20	4th Early Mars Conference	S. Clifford (remote) TBC
01:20 PM	0:20	Small Satellite Workshop (pre-LPSC)	TBD
01:40 PM	0:15	COSPAR Preparations	D. Beaty, L. Tamppari
01:55 PM	0:20	MAPSIT	J. Skinner
Concluding Section: Actions			
02:15 PM	0:45	Potential Study Groups/SAGs, Wrap-Up	J. Johnson
03:00 PM		Adjourn	