

# Mars Exploration Science Monthly Newsletter

A publication of the Mars Program Office and the Mars Exploration Program Analysis Group (MEPAG)

April 2022

## Mars Science News

### Mars Exploration Program Analysis Group Meeting (MEPAG #39): In-person/Virtual May 2–4, 2022, Denver, Colorado

Please join us for the in-person/virtual MEPAG 39 meeting to discuss results of the Planetary Sciences and Astrobiology Decadal Survey, Goals for Next Decade Mars missions, and MEP and MSR Program updates. Note, the Science Objectives for Human Exploration on Mars workshop will follow MEPAG 39 in Denver, CO on May 4–6 at the same venue.

For more information about MEPAG 39, including the latest agenda and the items below, please refer to the meeting site at <https://www.lpi.usra.edu/mepag/meetings/>

#### Request for Lightning Talks

A significant portion of the meeting will be dedicated to strategic planning for the Mars program. We are asking the broader community to actively participate in these discussions and encourage you to make your voice heard in a 3–5-minute lightning talk (1–4 slides). Both in-person and virtual attendees will be able to participate in discussions and posters (in person) following the lightning talks. **Lightning talk sign up will close April 27<sup>th</sup>, 2022.**

Please sign up for a lightning talk using the following form: <https://forms.gle/rQNsDiH2PfvqSqxJ6>

#### Registration

Registration fees are not being collected for this meeting, but registration is required ([link to registration here](#)). **In-person registration will be available through April 19, 2022**, and virtual attendance through May 4, 2022. Before the meeting, registered virtual attendees will receive an email from Houston Meeting Info with virtual connection information.

#### Lodging

A block of rooms has been reserved at the Sonesta Denver Downtown hotel for May 1–7, 2022, at a rate of \$139 for single occupancy and \$154 for double occupancy. Room occupancy taxes are currently 15.75%. **The hotel block will close on April 20, 2022.** Participants are responsible for making their own travel arrangements and hotel reservations.

Reservation Link: <https://book.passkey.com/e/50323301>

## NASA's Neurodiversity Network (N3)

NASA's Neurodiversity Network (N3) is looking for NASA Scientists and Engineers to serve as mentors for our 2022 Summer Interns. The goal of the N3 program is to provide experiences for neurodiverse high school students, specifically those on the autism spectrum, that will spark their interest in careers in STEM.

Now in its second year, the N3 project selects a group of at least 10 interns to work on a summer research project that aligns with NASA's Science Mission Directorate. Based on location, internships can be hosted either virtually or in person. Interns are required to work the equivalent of 160 hours from late May to early September, depending on their school schedule. Participating mentors will receive training on working with autistic high school students from the N3 team and dedicated support throughout the internship period. Mentors will also participate in brief program evaluation activities and receive a \$2000 stipend for their time. For more information about N3 visit: <https://n3.sonoma.edu/> or email [lynnc@universe.sonoma.edu](mailto:lynnc@universe.sonoma.edu)

**Release of Second Annual NASA Planetary Data System Customer Satisfaction Survey – 2022**

NASA’s Science Mission Directorate (SMD) announces the release of the second annual Planetary Data System (PDS) Customer Satisfaction Survey (CSS).

Please assist NASA in defining the next generation of the PDS by participating in the 2022 Planetary Data System Customer Satisfaction Survey: [https://cfigroupfed.gov1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\\_9EU3vxgeNksURqS](https://cfigroupfed.gov1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_9EU3vxgeNksURqS)

Survey results will be used to identify and prioritize services, ensuring that the needs of the planetary science community are met. The anonymous online survey, developed for NASA by its contractor CFI Group, takes a few minutes, and optional fields are provided to register your concerns and comments.

Please contact the PDS at [pds-operator@jpl.nasa.gov](mailto:pds-operator@jpl.nasa.gov) with questions on the survey.

Information on how the PDS is responding to the first 2020 PDS survey is provided [here](#).

**Near-term Due Dates (next three months)**

Due	Conference
April 14	<a href="#">European Astronomical Society Annual Meeting</a> – Early Registration Deadline
April 14	<a href="#">Optimizing Planetary In Situ Surface-Atmosphere Interaction Investigation</a> – Abstract Deadline
April 15	<a href="#">Forming and Exploring Habitable Worlds</a> – Abstract Deadline
April 15	<a href="#">Forming and Exploring Habitable Worlds</a> – Early Registration Deadline
April 20	<a href="#">Science Objectives for Human Exploration of Mars Workshop</a> – In-Person Registration Deadline
May 6	<a href="#">Science Objectives for Human Exploration of Mars Workshop</a> – Virtual Registration Deadline
May 27	<a href="#">Planetary Science Informatics and Data Analytics</a> – Registration Deadline
May 31	<a href="#">International Astronomical Union (IAU)</a> – Registration Deadline

**Upcoming Conferences**

- Note that for civil servants and those under contract with NASA, foreign and NASA-sponsored conferences generally need to be forecasted via NCTS. Forecasting to NCTS is usually due 60 days in advance for domestic meetings. If you are unsure whether an event is a conference or not, or when the deadline may be, please consult with your NASA Center conference forecasting/travel unit.
- **The situation for COVID-19 continues to evolve, so here are conferences with both in-person and virtual formats. It is advisable to check with the websites of the conference and confirm with the organization of any changes.**

2022		
	April 3-8, 2022 Vienna Austria	<b>EGU 2022</b> <a href="https://www.egu22.eu/">https://www.egu22.eu/</a>
	April 25-29, 2022 Virtual	<b>Advancing IDEA in Planetary Science</b> <a href="https://www.hou.usra.edu/meetings/advancingidea2022/">https://www.hou.usra.edu/meetings/advancingidea2022/</a>
	May 2-4, 2022 Denver, CO, USA	<b>Mars Exploration Program Analysis Group (MEPAG #39)</b> <a href="https://mepag.jpl.nasa.gov">https://mepag.jpl.nasa.gov</a>
	May 4-6, 2022 Denver, CO, USA / Virtual	<b>Science Objectives for Human Exploration of Mars Workshop</b> <a href="https://www.hou.usra.edu/meetings/marsexploration2022/">https://www.hou.usra.edu/meetings/marsexploration2022/</a>

	May 11-13, 2022 Reykjavik, Iceland	<b>The 35<sup>th</sup> Nordic Geological Winter Meeting 2022</b> <a href="https://ifi.is/ngwm-2022/">https://ifi.is/ngwm-2022/</a>
	May 15-20, 2022 Atlanta, GA USA	<b>AbSciCon 2022</b> <a href="https://www.agu.org/abscicon">https://www.agu.org/abscicon</a>
	May 17-19, 2022 Washington, D.C., USA	<b>The Humans to Mars Summit (H2M)</b> <a href="https://www.h2msummit.com/">H2M Summit</a>
	May 17-20, 2022 Alamosa, Colorado	<b>The 7<sup>th</sup> International Planetary Dunes Workshop</b> <a href="https://www.hou.usra.edu/meetings/dunes2022/">https://www.hou.usra.edu/meetings/dunes2022/</a>
	May 22-27, 2022 Chiba, Japan	<b>Japan Geoscience Union Meeting 2022</b> <a href="https://tinyurl.com/jgumeeting">https://tinyurl.com/jgumeeting</a>
	June 5-11, 2022 Quy Nhon, Vietnam	<b>Planetary Science: The Young Solar System</b> <a href="https://www.icisequynhon.com/conferences/2022/planetary_system/index.html">https://www.icisequynhon.com/conferences/2022/planetary_system/index.html</a>
	June 12-17, 2022 Golden Colorado, USA	<b>Ground Penetrating Radar (GPR 22)</b> <a href="https://learn.mines.edu/gpr2022/">https://learn.mines.edu/gpr2022/</a>
	June 14-17, 2022 Paris, France	<b>7th Mars Atmosphere Modelling &amp; Observations</b> <a href="http://www-mars.lmd.jussieu.fr/paris2022/">http://www-mars.lmd.jussieu.fr/paris2022/</a>
	June 21-23, 2022 Madrid, Spain	<b>Planetary Science Informatics &amp; Data Analytics Conference</b> <a href="https://www.cosmos.esa.int/web/psida-2022/home">https://www.cosmos.esa.int/web/psida-2022/home</a>
<b>NEW</b>	June 27-July 1, 2022 Valencia, Spain	<b>European Astronomical Society Annual Meeting</b> <a href="https://eas.unige.ch/EAS2022/index.jsp">https://eas.unige.ch/EAS2022/index.jsp</a>
	June 28-July 1, 2022 Boise, Idaho	<b>Optimizing Planetary In Situ Surface-Atmosphere Interaction Investigation</b> <a href="https://www.hou.usra.edu/meetings/planetinsitu2022/">https://www.hou.usra.edu/meetings/planetinsitu2022/</a>
	July 4-8, 2022 Oxford, UK	<b>Rocky Worlds II</b> <a href="https://www.rockyworlds.org">https://www.rockyworlds.org</a>
	May 2-5, 2022 Denver, Colorado, USA	<b>Science Objectives for Human Exploration of Mars Workshop</b> <a href="https://www.hou.usra.edu/meetings/marsexploration2022/">https://www.hou.usra.edu/meetings/marsexploration2022/</a>
	July 16-24, 2022 Athens, Greece	<b>COSPAR 2022 44<sup>th</sup> Scientific Assembly</b> <a href="https://www.cosparathens2022.org/">https://www.cosparathens2022.org/</a>
	July 25-29, 2022 Hybrid/Pasadena, CA, USA	<b>2022 Sagan Summer Workshop: Exoplanet Science in the Gaia Era</b> <a href="https://nexsci.caltech.edu/workshop/2022/">https://nexsci.caltech.edu/workshop/2022/</a>
<b>NEW</b>	August 2-11, 2022 Busan, Korea	<b>International Astronomical Union (IAU)</b> <a href="https://www.iau.org/science/meetings/future/2600/">https://www.iau.org/science/meetings/future/2600/</a>
	September 12-16, 2022 Coimbra, Portugal	<b>10<sup>th</sup> IAG International Conference on Geomorphology</b> <a href="https://www.icg2022.eu/home.html">https://www.icg2022.eu/home.html</a>
	September 18-23, 2022 Granada, Spain	<b>Europlanet Science Congress (EPSC)</b> <a href="https://www.europlanet-society.org/european-planetary-science-congress/">https://www.europlanet-society.org/european-planetary-science-congress/</a>
	November 7-13, 2022 Edinburgh, Scotland	<b>Forming and Exploring Habitable Worlds</b> <a href="https://www.habitableworlds.co.uk">https://www.habitableworlds.co.uk</a>

Seasons on Mars

	MY36	MY37	MY38	MY39
Start of Northern Spring / L <sub>s</sub> 0	02/07/2021	12/26/2022	11/12/2024	09/30/2026
Start of Northern Summer / L <sub>s</sub> 90	08/25/2021	07/13/2023	05/29/2025	04/17/2027
Start of Northern Autumn / L <sub>s</sub> 180	02/24/2022	01/12/2024	11/29/2025	10/17/2027
Start of Northern Winter / L <sub>s</sub> 270	07/21/2022	06/07/2024	04/25/2026	03/12/2028

U.S. Federal holidays to consider when scheduling conferences/workshops/meetings



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Please send Mars Community Announcements and calendar items for inclusion in next month's newsletter to:

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This newsletter (and all previous months') is also posted on the MEPAG website: <http://mepag.jpl.nasa.gov>

If you wish to withdraw from the electronic mailing list that this newsletter is sent out to, please send an email from your email account to [mepag-removesignup@jpl.nasa.gov](mailto:mepag-removesignup@jpl.nasa.gov).

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