Mars Science News

Presentations from the MEPAG Virtual Meeting VM6 are posted

Following up on discussion from MEPAG Meeting 37 and in preparation for the September CAPS meeting, MEPAG held a virtual meeting on Wednesday, August 28, 12-2 pm EDT. At this virtual meeting, the proposed final wording for the Findings from MEPAG Meeting 37 (held July 26, 2019 in Pasadena, CA) and possible statements from MEPAG about future New Frontiers candidates (a topic being discussed by several AGs) were discussed. Additionally, a request for community feedback from the Planetary Protection Independent Review Board was issued (see below). Presentations from VM6 have been posted to the MEPAG meeting VM6 page, and a Summary Report will be added in the near-future. Comments about VM6 and any of the discussed topics can be sent to MEPAGmeetingQs@jpl.nasa.gov.

Comments requested by PPIRB about Mars Planetary Protection

Wendy Calvin (University of Nevada-Reno), a member of the Planetary Protection Independent Review Board (PPIRB), requests feedback from MEPAG regarding:

1) Planetary protection (PP) as currently implemented for Mars
2) Suggestions for how to improve PP for Mars
3) What we need to learn or study in order to update our understanding of Martian “Special Regions”

In addition to discussion at the recent MEPAG virtual meeting (VM6), comments are welcomed via google form through Wednesday, Sept 4: https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSe_3IZT-06_0SGE7IyMcBMKNUDxrA87WUFwrCrPO3QFp2YCanA/viewform

For more context of the discussion at VM6, Dave Beaty’s (MPO/JPL) presentation on this topic is available, along with all other VM6 presentations, at the meeting website: https://mepag.jpl.nasa.gov/meetings.cfm?expand=vm6.

Integration Report and Plenaries from Ninth International Conference on Mars now available

The Ninth International Conference on Mars was held at the California Institute of Technology (Caltech) in Pasadena, California, Monday, July 22 through Thursday, July 25. A key aim of this conference was to synthesize advancements in different disciplines and areas of Mars investigations, and to identify key advancements and open questions. Teams of Integrators generated a report to summarize these points, in the areas of Climate, Geology, Life, and Preparation for Human Exploration. These reports, along with plenary oral presentations, are now available from the Conference website: https://www.hou.usra.edu/meetings/ninthmars2019/ (see “Presentations” in the menu).

Mars-relevant Special Issues Welcoming Paper Submissions

- The Journal Atmosphere (ISSN 2073-4433) is requesting papers for a special issue “Observations and Measurements of the Martian Atmosphere.” Dr. Sonal Kumar Jain and Dr. Edward Thiemann are serving as guest editors; their invitation letter states “Given the wealth of data collected by past missions to the red planet and the numerous missions presently at Mars, when considered in aggregate, are characterizing the entire atmosphere, it is timely to bring together a collection of papers on the latest analyses of Mars atmospheric observations and measurements. We encourage submissions of research that analyze data from any region of the Mars atmosphere, including the ionosphere. Further, although space-based observations are emphasized, ground-based measurements are also welcome.” For more information: https://www.mdpi.com/journal/atmosphere/special_issues/martian_atmosphere
  Submission deadline: 20 September 2019

- The journal Life (ISSN 2075-1729) is currently running a special issue titled “Planetary Exploration of Habitable Environments.” Prof. Dr. Dirk Schulze-Makuch, Technical University of Berlin (Germany), and Dr. Alberto G. Fairén, Centro de Astrobiología (Madrid, Spain) and Cornell University (Ithaca, N.Y.), are serving as guest editors for this issue. For more information: https://www.mdpi.com/si/life/Planetary_Exploration
  Submission deadline: 15 October 2019
Near-term Due Dates (next three months)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Due</th>
<th>Project</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>September 1</td>
<td>KICC: Rocky Worlds: from the Solar System to Exoplanets – Registration Deadline</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September 6</td>
<td>Asteroid Science in the Age of Hayabusa 22 and OSIRIS-REX – Abstract Deadline</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September 19</td>
<td>36th International Geological Congress – Free Abstract Deadline</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September 20</td>
<td>Large Meteorite Impacts and Planetary Evolution VI (LMI VI) – Registration Deadline</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September 21</td>
<td>70th International Astronautical Congress (IAC) – Registration Deadline</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October 7</td>
<td>Mars Extant Life: What’s Next? – Registration Deadline</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October 11</td>
<td>Asteroid Science in the Age of Hayabusa 22 and OSIRIS-REX – Registration Deadline</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October 23</td>
<td>2nd RPI Space Imaging Workshop – Registration Deadline</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October 30</td>
<td>Seventh International Conference on Mars Polar Science and Exploration – Abstract Deadline</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October 30</td>
<td>4th COSPAR Symposium: Small Satellites for Sustainable Science and Development – Registration Deadline</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>November 11</td>
<td>First International Orbital Debris Conference (IOC) – Early Registration Deadline</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>November 13</td>
<td>Exoplanets in Our Backyard – Abstract Deadline</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>November 22</td>
<td>First International Orbital Debris Conference (IOC) – Registration Deadline</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>November 30</td>
<td>IEEE Aerospace Conference – Early Registration Deadline</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Upcoming Conferences

- Only foreign and NASA-sponsored conferences will have an NCTS#; missing NCTS#s can be sent to Barbara Saltzberg (Barbara.A.Saltzberg@jpl.nasa.gov).
- Forecasting to NCTS is usually 60 days in advance for domestic meetings. If you are unsure whether an event is a conference or not, or when the forecasting deadline may be, please consult with your NASA Center conference forecasting/travel unit.

Third Quarter, 2019

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>UPDATED</th>
<th>Project</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| September 8-11, 2019 | Big Sky, MT, USA  
  The First Billion Years: Habitability: Producing Conditions Conducive to Life, NCTS 28519-20  
  https://www.hou.usra.edu/meetings/habitability2019/  |
| September 10-12, 2019 | Pasadena, CA, USA  
  NASEM’s Committee on Astrobiology and Planetary Science (CAPS)  
  http://sites.nationalacademies.org/SSB/SSB_067577#Meetings_and_Events  |
| September 10-13, 2019 | Rome, Italy  
  International Association of Sedimentologists (IAS) NCTS 38392-19  
  http://iasroma2019.org/  |
| September 11-13, 2019 | Rome, Italy  
  Asteroid Impact Deflection Assessment (AIDA) workshop  
  https://www.cosmos.esa.int/web/aida-international-workshop/home  |
| September 11-13, 2019 | Toulouse, France  
  Planetary Exploration, Horizon 2061  
  https://h2061-ltse.sciencesconf.org/  
  Note: This was intentionally scheduled just before the EPSC-DPS meeting, and travel from Toulouse to Geneva can be done via one-hour direct flights  |
| September 15-20, 2019 | Geneva, Switzerland  
  Joint Meeting: 51st Meeting of the AAS Division for Planetary Sciences (DPS), joint with the European Planetary Science Congress (EPSC), NCTS 37080-19  
  https://www.epsc-dps2019.eu/  |
| September 22-25, 2019 | Phoenix, AZ, USA  
  2019 GSA Annual Meeting, NCTS 37526-19  
| September 23-25, 2019 | Madrid, Spain  
  Titan after Cassini-Huygens Workshop, NCTS 37783-19  
  https://www.cosmos.esa.int/web/titan-after-cassini-huygens/home  |
| September 30-October 3, 2019 | Brasilia, Brazil  
  Large Meteorite Impacts and Planetary Evolution VI (LMI VI)  
  https://www.hou.usra.edu/meetings/lmi2019/  |

Fourth Quarter, 2019

| October 14-15, 2019 | Baltimore, MD, USA  
  Inclusive Astronomy 2 Conference  
  https://outerspace.stsci.edu/display/IA2  |
| October 21-25, 2019 | Washington, DC, USA  
  70th International Astronautical Congress (IAC), NCTS 36775-20  
  https://www.iac2019.org/  |
# Mars Exploration Science Monthly Newsletter

## September 2019

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>UPDATED</th>
<th>Event Details</th>
<th>URLs</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Fourth Quarter, 2019 – cont.</strong></td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| October 28-30, 2019 | 2nd RPI Space Imaging Workshop NCTS 38392-19  
http://seal.rpi.edu/workshop/2019 | |
| October 28-30, 2019 | Lunar Exploration Analysis Group (LEAG) meeting  
https://www.lpi.usra.edu/leag/ | |
| November 4-8, 2019 | The 4th COSPAR Symposium: Small Satellites for Sustainable Science and Development, NCTS 37773-20  
http://www.cospar2019.org/ | |
| November 5-8, 2019 | Mars Extant Life: What’s Next?  
https://www.hou.usra.edu/meetings/lifeonmars2019/ | |
| November 5-7, 2019 | Asteroid Science in the Age of Hayabusa 22 and OSIRIS-REX  
https://corex.lpl.arizona.edu/international-workshop | |
| December 9-12, 2019 | First International Orbital Debris Conference (IOC) NCTS 38110-20  
https://www.hou.usra.edu/meetings/orbitaldebris2019/ | |
| December 9-13, 2019 | 2019 AGU Fall Meeting, NCTS 37409-20  
mailto:https://www.agu.org/fall-meeting | |

## First Quarter, 2020

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event Date</th>
<th>Event Details</th>
<th>URLs</th>
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</thead>
</table>
| January 6-8, 2020 | KICC: Rocky Worlds: from the Solar System to Exoplanets  
https://www.kicc.cam.ac.uk/events/rocky-worlds-from-the-solar-system-to-exoplanets | |
| January 13-17, 2020 | 7th International Conference on Mars Polar Science and Exploration  
NCTS 39128-20  
https://www.hou.usra.edu/meetings/marspolar2020/ | |
| January 20-22, 2020 | Ice Giants Systems 2020 NCTS 38573-20  
https://ice-giants.github.io/ | |
| February 5-7, 2020 | Exoplanets in Our Backyard  
mailto:www.hou.usra.edu/meetings/exoplanets2020/ | |
| February 11-13, 2020 | LPI Workshop: The impact of lunar dust on human exploration  
https://www.hou.usra.edu/meetings/lunardust2020/ | |
| February 18-21, 2020 | 3rd International Planetary Caves Conference  
https://www.hou.usra.edu/meetings/3rdcaves2020/ | |
| March 2-6, 2020 | Ground and space observatories: a joint venture to planetary science workshop  
NCTS 39529-20  
https://conference.almaobservatory.org/planets2020/ | |
| March 2-8, 2020 | 36th International Geological Congress (IGC)  
mailto:https://www.36igc.org/home | |
| March 7-14, 2020 | IEEE Aerospace Conference  
https://www.aeroconf.org/ | |
| March 16-20, 2020 | LPSC  
https://www.hou.usra.edu/meetings/lpsc2020/ | |

## Second Quarter, 2020

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event Date</th>
<th>Event Details</th>
<th>URLs</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| April 20-23, 2020 | ASCE Earth & Space Conference Symposium 2: Exploration and Utilization of Extra-Terrestrial Bodies  
https://www.earthspaceconference.org/symposium-2 | |
| May 3-8, 2020 | Workshop Mars V  
https://www.cosmos.esa.int/web/planet-mars-5/home | |
| May 12-15, 2020 | 6th International Planetary Dunes Workshop  
https://www.hou.usra.edu/meetings/dunes2020/ | |
| June 2-4, 2020 | Mercury 2020, Current and future science of the innermost planet  
https://mercury2020.ias.u-psud.fr/main_1st.php | |
**Third-Fourth Quarter, 2020**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Launch Dates</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>July, 2020</td>
<td>Launch window for the UAE EMM orbiter (Hope)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July 26-August 11, 2020</td>
<td>Launch window for the ESA-Russia ExoMars rover (Rosalind Franklin)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July 17-August 5, 2020</td>
<td>Launch window for the NASA Mars 2020 rover</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>UPDATED</strong></td>
<td><strong>43rd COSPAR Scientific Assembly</strong> NCTS 35724-20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>August 15-22, 2020</td>
<td>Sydney, Australia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>NEW</strong></td>
<td><strong>Martian Enigmas 2020</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October 5-8, 2020</td>
<td><strong>Houston, TX, USA</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Seasons on Mars**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Season</th>
<th>MY34</th>
<th>MY35</th>
<th>MY36</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Start of Northern Spring / Ls 0</td>
<td>03/23/2019</td>
<td>02/07/2021</td>
<td>12/26/2022</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Start of Northern Summer / Ls 90</td>
<td>10/08/2019</td>
<td>08/25/2021</td>
<td>07/13/2023</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Start of Northern Autumn / Ls 180</td>
<td>04/08/2020</td>
<td>02/24/2022</td>
<td>01/24/2024</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Start of Northern Winter / Ls 270</td>
<td>09/02/2020</td>
<td>07/21/2022</td>
<td>06/07/2024</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Special holidays to consider when scheduling conferences/workshops/meetings**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Holiday</th>
<th>MY34</th>
<th>MY35</th>
<th>MY36</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Good Friday</td>
<td>4/19/2019</td>
<td>4/10/2021</td>
<td>4/2/2021</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rosh Hashanah</td>
<td>9/30/2019</td>
<td>9/19/2021</td>
<td>9/7/2021</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yom Kippur</td>
<td>10/09/2019</td>
<td>9/28/2021</td>
<td>9/16/2021</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thanksgiving Day, Canada</td>
<td>10/14/2019</td>
<td>10/12/2021</td>
<td>10/11/2021</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(Note that Jewish holidays start at sundown the previous evening)

**Editors**

- David Beaty: David.Beaty@jpl.nasa.gov 818-354-7968
- Serina Diniega: Serina.Diniega@jpl.nasa.gov 818-354-1487
- Barbara Saltzberg: Barbara.A.Saltzberg@jpl.nasa.gov 818-354-0226

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

Barbara Saltzberg at Barbara.a.Saltzberg@jpl.nasa.gov

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 this newsletter is sent out to, please send an email from your email account to mepag-removesignup@jpl.nasa.gov.

To be added to this list and receive this monthly newsletter and other Mars Science announcements, or to update your MEPAG directory information (which contains the email list used for sending out this newsletter), please fill out the online form: mepag-signup@jpl.nasa.gov (also linked at the bottom of the MEPAG website http://mepag.nasa.gov).