

Mars Exploration Science Monthly Newsletter

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

June 2017

Mars Science News

Mars Student Travel Award Winners, 2017

The NASA Mars Program Office, via direction and support from the NASA Mars Exploration Program, regularly makes available travel funding for US undergraduate and graduate students to attend and present at important and Mars-focused workshops and conferences. Congratulations to the MPO travel award winners over the past year:

3rd Landing Site Workshop for the 2020 Mars Rover Mission:

Michael Bramble, Brown University
Andrew Gangidine, University of Cincinnati
Joshua Williams, Western Washington University
Jonathan Zaloumis, Arizona State University

Astrobiology Science Conference 2017:

Kaitlin Rempfert, University of Colorado Boulder
Erika Flores, California State University, Los Angeles
Caitlin Casar, Northwestern University
David Barnard, Temple University
Yu (Angela) Bai, Georgetown University
Richard Archer, Community College of Denver

5th International Planetary Dunes Workshop:

Nathaniel Bristow, University of Notre Dame
Ben Cardenas, University of Texas at Austin
Anna Urso, University of Arizona

Student travel grant available for 4th International Conference on Early Mars

The NASA Mars Program Office has announced that travel funding will be made available for undergraduate and graduate students over 18yrs in age who are U.S. citizens or legal residents, with Mars-related interests, to attend the 4th International Conference on Early Mars: Geologic, Hydrologic, and Climatic Evolution and the Implications for Life (<https://www.hou.usra.edu/meetings/earlymars2017/>) to be held October 2-6, 2017 in Flagstaff, AZ. An application must be submitted by **5pm CDT July 18** (same as the abstract deadline) to be considered for this funding. NASA Headquarters will select up to 3 students, and we expect to notify students by mid-August. For more information, see <https://mepag.jpl.nasa.gov/student.cfm?expand=student>.

Request for Proposals: Mapping of Water Deposits to Support MEP Studies

The Jet Propulsion Laboratory has issued a Request for Proposal (RFP) in support of NASA's Mars Exploration Program. This RFP will seek two data products focused on mapping water in various forms on Mars. These are:

- (1) A map of the distribution and concentration of subsurface water ice within a predefined swath extending from low to high latitudes; and
- (2) A global map cataloging all known surface hydrated mineral deposits and its characteristics.

The resultant products are intended to inform future NASA efforts to better understand the nature and viability of potential water resources on Mars, and options for accessing Special Regions in NASA's ongoing search for signs of life on Mars. In addition, these results will be used to inform NASA's Mars Human Landing Sites Study (HLS2), as well as future landing site selection processes. Please see <https://www.jpl.nasa.gov/acquisition/opportunities/> for more information. Please note that the request for NOIs was a recommendation, not a requirement. Proposals are due June 30, 2017.

Near-term Due Dates (next three months)

Due	Project
June 19	33rd International Meeting of Planetary Sedimentology: Mars, Titan, and Elsewhere , Abstract and Registration Deadline
June 29	The Early History of Planetary Systems and Habitable Planets , Registration Deadline The XVIIIth International Conference on the Origin of Life , Registration Deadline
June 30	68th International Astronautical Congress , Registration Deadline The 3rd COSPAR Symposium , Registration Deadline
July 1	The Eighth Moscow Solar System Symposium , Registration Deadline
July 10	The Eighth Moscow Solar System Symposium , Abstract Deadline
July 13	51st ESLAB Symposium: Extreme Habitable Worlds , Abstract Deadline
July 18	The Fourth International Conference on Early Mars , Abstract and MPO Travel Grant Application Deadline
July 26	49th Annual Division for Planetary Sciences Meeting , Abstract Deadline
July 31	European Planetary Science Congress 2017 , Registration Deadline
August 1	8th Planetary Crater Consortium Meeting , Abstract Deadline 2017 GSA Annual Meeting , Abstract Deadline
August 2	American Geophysical Union Fall Meeting , Abstract Deadline
August 3	Habitable Worlds 2017: A System Science Workshop , Abstract Deadline
August 29	The Workshop on Modern Analytical Methods Applied to Earth, Planetary and Material Sciences II , Abstract Deadline

Upcoming Conferences and Workshops

A note about “conferences” and this calendar of events

- Missing NCTS#s (and forecasting deadline, if anomalous) can be sent to Meredith Cosby (meredith.a.cosby@jpl.nasa.gov).
- If no deadline is noted: it is usually 90 days in advance — sometimes further in advance if the conference is “Heavily Attended.”
- Please do not assume our noting of NCTS# is complete. 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.

Second Quarter, 2017

June 17-18, 2017 South Hadley, MA, USA	Origins of Solar Systems: The Foundations of Planets https://www.grc.org/programs.aspx?id=12346
June 18-23, 2017 South Hadley, MA, USA	Origins of Solar Systems: Making a Planet Habitable https://www.grc.org/programs.aspx?id=12346

Third Quarter, 2017

July 3-5, 2017 Berlin, GERMANY	1st IUGG Symposium on Planetary Science http://www.dlr.de/pf/desktopdefault.aspx/tabid-11789
July 16-21, 2017 San Diego, California, USA	The XVIIIth International Conference on the Origin of Life http://www.hou.usra.edu/meetings/issol2017/ NCTS# 27115-17
July 18-20, 2017 Moffett Field, CA, USA	4th annual NASA Exploration Science Forum (ESF) https://nesf2017.arc.nasa.gov/
July 24-27, 2017 Santa Fe, NM, USA	Meteoritical Society Meeting http://meteoriticalsociety.org/?page_id=18 NCS#28933-17
July 24-28, 2017 Pasadena, CA, USA	NASA Planetary Science Summer School https://psss.jpl.nasa.gov/index.cfm
Updated! August 8-10, 2017 Tartu, ESTONIA	The Early History of Planetary Systems and Habitable Planets https://sisu.ut.ee/eac/home-0
August 9-11, 2017 Flagstaff, AZ, USA	8th Planetary Crater Consortium Meeting http://www.planetarycraterconsortium.nau.edu/PCCMeeting.htm
August 13-16, 2017 Hong Kong, CHINA	2017 International Symposium on Planetary Remote Sensing and Mapping http://event.lsgi.polyu.edu.hk/prsm2017/ NCTS# 29650-17
Updated! August 15-17, 2017 Pasadena, CA, USA	Low-Cost Planetary Missions Conference (LCPM-12) http://www.lcpm12.org/ NCTS#29046-17
August 15 -18, 2017 Houston, TX, USA	Accretion: Building New Worlds http://www.hou.usra.edu/meetings/accretion2017/ NCTS# 28309-17
September 13-14, 2017 Irvine, CA, USA	NRC's Committee on Astrobiology and Planetary Science (CAPS) http://sites.nationalacademies.org/SSB/SSB_067577#Meetings_and_Events

June 2017

Third Quarter, 2017—cont.

Updated!	September 17-22, 2017 Riga, LATVIA	European Planetary Science Congress http://www.epsc2017.eu/ NCTS#29142-17
	September 18-22, 2017 Jeju Island, SOUTH KOREA	The 3rd COSPAR Symposium; Small Satellites for Space Research Abstract Submission is now open https://cosparhq.cnes.fr/
New!	September 19-22, 2017 Beijing, CHINA	The 3rd Beijing International Forum on Lunar and Deep Space Exploration http://ldse2017.csp.escience.cn/dct/page/1
	September 25-27, 2017 Jena, GERMANY	Planet Formation and Evolution 2017 http://www.astro.uni-jena.de/~pfe2017/ NCTS# 27623-17
	September 25-29, 2017 Adelaide, AUSTRALIA	68th International Astronautical Congress http://www.iac2017.org/ NCTS# 27783-17
	September 25-29, 2017 Furnas, Azores, PORTUGAL	Geosciences for Understanding Habitability in the Universe http://www.egu-galileo.eu/gc2-habitability/

Fourth Quarter, 2017

	October 2-6, 2017 Flagstaff, AZ, USA	The Fourth International Conference on Early Mars https://www.hou.usra.edu/meetings/earlymars2017/ NCTS# 29455-18
New!	October 9-13, 2017 Moscow, RUSSIA	The Eighth Moscow Solar System Symposium https://ms2017.cosmos.ru/
	October 10-12, 2017 Toulouse, FRANCE	33rd International Meeting of Planetary Sedimentology: Mars, Titan, and Elsewhere ims2017.sciencesconf.org
New!	October 12-13, 2017 Columbia, MD, USA	Back to the Moon Workshop http://www.hou.usra.edu/meetings/moon2017
Updated!	October 15-20, 2017 Provo, UTA, USA	Division of Planetary Sciences Meeting https://aas.org/meetings/dps49 NCTS#28527-18
Updated!	October 22 –25, 2017 Seattle, WA, USA	2017 GSA Annual Meeting http://community.geosociety.org/gsa2017/home NCTS# 28544-18
	November 6-11, 2017 New Dehli, INDIA	9th International Conference on Geomorphology http://www.icg2017.com/
	November 11-12, 2017 Budapest, HUNGARY	The Workshop on Modern Analytical Methods Applied to Earth, Planetary and Material Sciences II https://www.hou.usra.edu/meetings/methods2017/
	November 13-17, 2017 Laramie, WY, USA	Habitable Worlds 2017: A System Science Workshop https://www.hou.usra.edu/meetings/habitableworlds2017/

Fourth Quarter, 2017—cont.

	November 14-16, 2017 Laurel, MD, USA	VEXAG Meeting #15 http://www.lpi.usra.edu/vexag/
	Nov 26-Dec 1, 2017 Coyhaique, CHILE	Astrobiology 2017 http://astrobiology2017.org/ NCTS# 28382-18
	December 4-8, 2017 Noordwijk, NETHERLANDS	51st ESLAB Symposium: Extreme Habitable Worlds http://esaconferencebureau.com/2017-events/eslab2017
	December 11-15, 2017 New Orleans, LA, USA	American Geophysical Union Fall Meeting (AGU) http://fallmeeting.agu.org/2016/2017-fall-meeting-new-orleans/

2018

	March 19-23, 2017 The Woodlands, TX, USA	49th Lunar and Planetary Science Conference
	March 27-29, 2018 Washington, DC USA	NRC's Committee on Astrobiology and Planetary Sciences (CAPS) http://sites.nationalacademies.org/SSB/SSB_067577#Meetings_and_Events
	April 23-27, 2018 San Gabriel Valley, CA, USA	Differentiation: Building the Internal Architecture of Planets
	April 24-26, 2018 St. Louis, MO, USA	Planetary Science Informatics and Data Analytics https://psida.rsl.wustl.edu/
	May 5, 2018	Insight launch window opens
New!	July 14-22, 2018 Pasadena, CA, USA	COSPAR 2018 https://www.cospar-assembly.org/ NCTS#28500-18
	September 12-13, 2018 Irvine, CA, USA	NRC's Committee on Astrobiology and Planetary Science (CAPS) http://sites.nationalacademies.org/SSB/SSB_067577#Meetings_and_Events
	Sept. 30-Oct. 3, 2018 Flagstaff, AZ, USA	Bombardment: Shaping Planetary Surfaces and Their Environments http://www.lpi.usra.edu/first-billion-years/
New!	November 4-7, 2018 Indianapolis, IN, USA	2018 GSA Annual Meeting https://www.geosociety.org/GSA/Events/Annual_Meeting/GSA/Events/gsa2018.aspx
	November 26, 2018	Insight landing

Seasons on Mars

	MY34	MY35	MY36
Start of Northern Spring / L _s 0	5/05/2017	3/23/2019	2/07/2021
Start of Northern Summer / L _s 90	11/20/2017	10/08/2019	8/25/2021
Start of Northern Autumn / L _s 180	5/22/2018	4/08/2020	2/24/2022
Start of Northern Winter / L _s 270	10/16/2018	9/02/2020	7/21/2022

Special holidays to consider when scheduling conferences/workshops/meetings

Good Friday	4/14/2017	3/30/2018	4/19/2019	4/10/20
Rosh Hashanah	9/21/2017	9/10/2018	9/30/2019	9/19/20
Yom Kippur	9/30/2017	9/19/2018	10/09/2019	9/28/20
(Note that Jewish holidays start at sundown the previous evening)				
Thanksgiving Day, Canada	10/09/2017	10/08/2018	10/14/2019	10/12/20
Thanksgiving Day, U.S.	11/23/2017	11/22/2018	11/28/2019	11/26/20
Christmas Day	12/25/2017	12/25/2018	12/25/2019	12/25/20

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

Meredith Cosby at Meredith.a.cosby@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: <http://goo.gl/forms/WilmhPI M9V> (also linked on the MEPAG website <http://mepag.nasa.gov/>, under Updates).