

# Mars Exploration Science Monthly Newsletter

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

September 2018

## Mars Science News

### **MEPAG Virtual Meeting #3: September 13, 10-12:15 PDT**

The 3<sup>rd</sup> Virtual MEPAG meeting will occur on September 13 from 10:00 AM to 12:15PM PDT. To attend this meeting, please use the following link: <https://jpl.webex.com/jpl/j.php?MTID=ma844f6bac9749b1e949bb81b3d969366>  
Meeting Number (access code): 902 019 322

The agenda will include reports on the midterm review of the planetary Decadal Survey and the planetary protection policy development process. The 1st Circular, including the agenda and instructions pertaining to connectivity has been posted at <https://mepag.jpl.nasa.gov/meetings.cfm>. Updates to the agenda will be posted to this site.

All members of the Mars exploration community are invited!

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### **AGU Fall Meeting Late-Breaking Session on the Global Dust Storm of 2018**

Conveners: Richard Zurek and Leslie Tamppari, Jet Propulsion Laboratory, California Institute of Technology

Please consider submitting an abstract to the new, late-breaking session covering the large Martian global dust storm which began in June, 2018. Extended abstract deadline is **15 September, 2018**. Even if you have already submitted an abstract to the Fall Meeting, you may submit a second abstract to this session. Please visit the AGU Fall Meeting website at <https://fallmeeting.agu.org/2018/abstract-submissions/> for more information.

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### **JGR Special Issue for Dust Storm Announced**

Scott Guzewich reports that JGR has approved a special issue for the dust storm titled: "Studies of the 2018/Mars Year 34 Planet-Encircling Dust Storm". This will be a joint special issue between JGR-Planets, GRL, and JGR-Space Physics. Submission for the issue will open on October 1st and close on March 1st.

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### **Mars Extant Life: What's Next? January 29-February 1, 2019, Carlsbad, NM**

This three-and-one-half-day conference will focus on understanding and discussing strategies for exploring for extant life on Mars. The key aspects of the conference will be time allocated to discussion and the extent to which consensus positions can be identified and established from submitted hypotheses. Indications of Interest are due September 28, 2018. The abstract deadline is November 15, 2018; applications for the MPO Student Travel Grant will also be due that day. Further information is available at: <https://www.hou.usra.edu/meetings/lifeonmars2019/>

## Final iMOST Report on Potential Science and Engineering Value of MSR, Now Available

The International Mars Sample Return Objectives and Samples Team (iMOST) has released their final version of “The Potential Science and Engineering Value of Samples Delivered to Earth by Sample Return”. This study, chartered in November 2017 by the International Mars Exploration Working Group (IMEWG), provides updated analyses of the scientific value of Mars Sample Return given the now-known realities of the M-2020 sampling system, the incremental discoveries from Mars that have been made since the last big MSR study, and evolving priorities in astrobiology, geology and geochemistry.

This report is available on the MEPAG website at: [https://mepag.jpl.nasa.gov/reports/iMOST\\_Final\\_Report\\_180814.pdf](https://mepag.jpl.nasa.gov/reports/iMOST_Final_Report_180814.pdf)

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

Due	Project
September 7	<b>International Workshop on Instrumentation for Planetary Missions (IPM) 2018</b> , Late Registration Deadline
September 9	<b>European Week of Astronomy and Space Science (EWASS 2010)</b> , Expression of Interest Deadline
September 10	<b>European Astrobiology Network Association Conference (EANA 2018)</b> , Late Registration Deadline
September 10	<b>Europa Deep Dive 2: Composition</b> , Early Registration Deadline
September 15	<b>4<sup>th</sup> Mars 2020 Rover Landing Site Selection Workshop</b> , Presentation Title Submission Deadline
September 18	<b>Bombardment: The First Billion Years</b> , Late Registration Deadline
September 19	<b>16<sup>th</sup> Venus Exploration Analysis Group Meeting</b> , Abstract Deadline
September 21	<b>Ninth Moscow International Solar System Symposium (9M-S3)</b> , Final Registration Deadline
September 26	<b>Late Mars Workshop</b> , Late Registration
September 28	<b>Mars Extant Life: What's Next?</b> Indication of Interest
September 28	<b>50<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the AAS Division for Planetary Sciences</b> , Late Registration Deadline
October 1	<b>JGR-Planets/GRL/JGR-Space Physics Joing Special Issue, "Studies of the 2018/Mars Year 34 Planet-Encircling Dust Storm"</b> Submissions Opens
October 1	<b>2018 GSA Annual Meeting</b> , Early Registration Deadline
October 2	<b>Europa Deep Dive 2: Composition</b> , Registration Deadline
October 5	<b>4<sup>th</sup> Mars 2020 Rover Landing Site Selection Workshop</b> , Registration Deadline
October 19	<b>IEEE Aerospace Conference</b> , Paper Submission Deadline
October 26	<b>16<sup>th</sup> Venus Exploration Analysis Group Meeting</b> , Registration Deadline
November 2	<b>Annual Meeting of the Lunar Exploration Analysis Group</b> , Registration Deadline
November 7	<b>American Geophysical Union Fall Meeting</b> , Registration Deadline
November 15	<b>Mars Extant Life: What's Next?</b> , Abstract Deadline, Student Application for MPO Travel Grant Deadline
November 30	<b>IEEE Aerospace Conference</b> , Early Registration Deadline
November 30	<b>2019 IAA Planetary Defense Conference</b> , 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 Barbara Saltzberg ([Barbara.A.Saltzberg@jpl.nasa.gov](mailto:Barbara.A.Saltzberg@jpl.nasa.gov)).
- If no deadline is noted: it is usually 60 days in advance for domestic meetings — 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.

### Third Quarter, 2018

<b>Updated!</b>	September 11-14, 2018 Niseko, Hokkaido, Japan	<b>International Venus Conference 2018</b> , NCTS# 31333-18 <a href="https://www.cps-jp.org/~akatsuki/venus2018/">https://www.cps-jp.org/~akatsuki/venus2018/</a>
	September 11-12, 2018 Pasadena, CA USA	<b>Outer Planets Assessment Group (OPAG) Meeting</b> , NCTS# 34029-18 <a href="https://www.lpi.usra.edu/opag/">https://www.lpi.usra.edu/opag/</a>
	September 11-13, 2018 Irvine, CA, USA	<b>NASEM Committee on Astrobiology and Planetary Science (CAPS)</b> <a href="http://sites.nationalacademies.org/SSB/SSB_067577#Meetings_and_Events">http://sites.nationalacademies.org/SSB/SSB_067577#Meetings_and_Events</a>
	September 12-14, 2018 Berlin, Germany	<b>International Workshop on Instrumentation for Planetary Missions (IPM) 2018</b> NCTS# 34186-18 <a href="https://ipm2018.org/">https://ipm2018.org/</a>
	September 16-21, 2018 Berlin, Germany, USA	<b>European Planetary Science Congress (EPSC) 2018</b> , NCTS# 32031-18 <a href="https://www.epsc2018.eu/">https://www.epsc2018.eu/</a>
<b>Updated!</b>	September 24-26, 2018 Honolulu, HI, USA	<b>Multispectral, Hyperspectral, and Ultraspectral Remote Sensing Technology, Techniques and Applications VII</b> <a href="http://spie.org/AE/conferencedetails/multispectral-hyperspectral-and-ultraspectral-remote-sensing?SSO=1">http://spie.org/AE/conferencedetails/multispectral-hyperspectral-and-ultraspectral-remote-sensing?SSO=1</a>
	September 24-28, 2018 Berlin, Germany	<b>European Astrobiology Conference (EANA 2018)</b> <a href="http://www.eana-net.eu/index.php?page=Conferences/EANA2018">http://www.eana-net.eu/index.php?page=Conferences/EANA2018</a>
	Sept. 30-Oct. 2, 2018 Flagstaff, AZ, USA	<b>The First Billion Years: Bombardment: Shaping Planetary Surfaces and Their Environments</b> , NCTS# 28520-18 <a href="https://www.hou.usra.edu/meetings/bombardment2018/">https://www.hou.usra.edu/meetings/bombardment2018/</a>

### Fourth Quarter, 2018

	October 1-2, 2018 Houston, TX, USA	<b>Late Mars Workshop</b> , NCTS# 34492-19 <a href="https://www.hou.usra.edu/meetings/latemars2018/">https://www.hou.usra.edu/meetings/latemars2018/</a>
	October 1-5, 2018 Bremen, Germany	<b>69th International Astronautical Congress</b> <a href="http://www.iafastro.org/events/iac/iac-2018/">http://www.iafastro.org/events/iac/iac-2018/</a>
	October 8-12, 2018 Moscow, Russia	<b>Ninth Moscow International Solar System Symposium (9M-S3)</b> <a href="https://ms2018.cosmos.ru/">https://ms2018.cosmos.ru/</a>
	October 9-11, 2018 Houston, TX, USA	<b>Europa Deep Dive 2: Composition</b> , NCTS# 34828-19 <a href="https://www.hou.usra.edu/meetings/europadeepdive2018/">https://www.hou.usra.edu/meetings/europadeepdive2018/</a>
	October 16-18 Glendale, CA, USA	<b>4th Mars 2020 Rover Landing Site Selection Workshop</b> , NCTS# 34492-19 <a href="https://marsnext.jpl.nasa.gov/workshops/wkshp_2018_10.cfm">https://marsnext.jpl.nasa.gov/workshops/wkshp_2018_10.cfm</a>
	October 21-26, 2018 Knoxville, TN, USA	<b>50th Meeting of the AAS Division for Planetary Sciences</b> , NCTS# 32241-19 <a href="https://aas.org/meetings/dps50">https://aas.org/meetings/dps50</a>

## Fourth Quarter, 2018

	November 4-7, 2018 Indianapolis, IN, USA	<b>2018 GSA Annual Meeting</b> , NCTS#32778-19 <a href="https://www.geosociety.org/GSA/Events/Annual_Meeting/GSA/Events/gsa2018.aspx">https://www.geosociety.org/GSA/Events/Annual_Meeting/GSA/Events/gsa2018.aspx</a> <i>T51: Planetary Aeolian Geology from Outcrop to Orbit: Nathan Bridges Memorial Session</i>
	November 6-8, 2018 Laurel, MD, USA	<b>16th Venus Exploration Analysis Group meeting</b> , NCTS# 34829-19 <a href="https://www.lpi.usra.edu/vexag/meetings/vexag-16/">https://www.lpi.usra.edu/vexag/meetings/vexag-16/</a>
	November 14-15 Columbia, MD, USA	<b>Annual Meeting of the Lunar Exploration Analysis Group</b> , NCTS# 35486-19 <a href="https://www.hou.usra.edu/meetings/leag2018/">https://www.hou.usra.edu/meetings/leag2018/</a>
	November 26, 2018	<b>Insight landing</b>
	December 10-14, 2018 Washington, DC, USA	<b>American Geophysical Union Fall Meeting</b> , NCTS# 31561-19 <a href="https://fallmeeting.agu.org/2018/">https://fallmeeting.agu.org/2018/</a>

## 2019

	January 20-February 1, 2019 Carlsbad, NM, USA	<b>Mars Extant Life: What's Next?</b> NCTS# 35763-19 <a href="https://www.hou.usra.edu/meetings/lifeonmars2019/">https://www.hou.usra.edu/meetings/lifeonmars2019/</a>
	January 29-31, 2019 Houston, TX, USA	<b>20th Meeting of the NASA Small Bodies Assessment Group</b> , NCTS# 35910-19 <a href="https://www.lpi.usra.edu/sbag/meetings/">https://www.lpi.usra.edu/sbag/meetings/</a>
	March 2-9, 2019 Big Sky, MT, USA	<b>IEEE Aerospace Conference</b> , NCTS# 35072-19 <a href="https://www.aeroconf.org/">https://www.aeroconf.org/</a>
	March 18-22, 2019 The Woodlands, TX, USA	<b>50th Lunar and Planetary Science Conference</b> , NCTS# 35124-19 <a href="https://www.hou.usra.edu/meetings/lpsc2019/">https://www.hou.usra.edu/meetings/lpsc2019/</a>
	March 26-28, 2019 Washington, DC, USA	<b>NASEM's Committee on Astrobiology and Planetary Science (CAPS)</b> <a href="http://sites.nationalacademies.org/SSB/SSB_067577#Meetings_and_Events">http://sites.nationalacademies.org/SSB/SSB_067577#Meetings_and_Events</a>
<b>New!</b>	April 29-May 3, 2019 Washington, D.C., USA	<b>2019 IAA Planetary Defense Conference</b> <a href="http://pdc.iaaweb.org/">http://pdc.iaaweb.org/</a>
<b>New!</b>	June 18-19, 2019 Coimbra, Portugal	<b>International Meeting on Paleoclimate: Changes and Adaptation</b> , <a href="https://paleoclimate2019.wixsite.com/paleoclimate2019">https://paleoclimate2019.wixsite.com/paleoclimate2019</a> Research Topic T1: Paleoclimates in the Solar System: external forcing and divergent evolutions
<b>New!</b>	June 24-28, 2019 Lyon, France	<b>European Week of Astronomy and Space Science (EWASS 2019)</b> <a href="http://eas.unige.ch/EWASS2019/call.jsp">http://eas.unige.ch/EWASS2019/call.jsp</a>
<b>New!</b>	July 12-16, 2019 Laurel, MD, USA	<b>Pluto After New Horizons</b> <a href="https://www.lpi.usra.edu/planetary_news/2018/01/16/pluto-after-new-horizons-date-change/">https://www.lpi.usra.edu/planetary_news/2018/01/16/pluto-after-new-horizons-date-change/</a>
	July 22-26, 2019 Pasadena, CA, USA	<b>9th International Conference on Mars</b> <a href="https://www.hou.usra.edu/meetings/ninthmars2019/">https://www.hou.usra.edu/meetings/ninthmars2019/</a>
	September 10-12, 2019 Irvine, CA, USA	<b>NASEM's Committee on Astrobiology and Planetary Science (CAPS)</b> <a href="http://sites.nationalacademies.org/SSB/SSB_067577#Meetings_and_Events">http://sites.nationalacademies.org/SSB/SSB_067577#Meetings_and_Events</a>
<b>Updated!</b>	September 15-19, 2019 Big Sky, Montana, USA	<b>The First Billion Years: Habitability: Producing Conditions Conducive to Life</b> <a href="https://www.lpi.usra.edu/first-billion-years/">https://www.lpi.usra.edu/first-billion-years/</a>
	September 15-20, 2019 Geneva, Switzerland	<b>51st Meeting of the AAS Division for Planetary Science</b> <a href="https://dps.aas.org/meetings/future">https://dps.aas.org/meetings/future</a>
	September 22-25, 2019 Phoenix, AZ, USA	<b>2019 GSA Annual Meeting</b> <a href="https://www.geosociety.org/GSA/Events/Annual_Meeting/GSA/Events/gsa2019.aspx">https://www.geosociety.org/GSA/Events/Annual_Meeting/GSA/Events/gsa2019.aspx</a>
	December 9-13, 2019 San Francisco, CA, USA	<b>2019 AGU Fall Meeting</b> <a href="https://fallmeeting.agu.org/2018/future-meetings/">https://fallmeeting.agu.org/2018/future-meetings/</a>

**Seasons on Mars**

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

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

Good Friday	3/30/2018	4/19/2019	4/10/2020	4/2/2021
Rosh Hashanah	9/10/2018	9/30/2019	9/19/2020	9/7/2021
Yom Kippur	9/19/2018	10/09/2019	9/28/2020	9/16/2021

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

Thanksgiving Day, Canada	10/08/2018	10/14/2019	10/12/2020	10/11/2021
Thanksgiving Day, U.S.	11/22/2018	11/28/2019	11/26/2020	11/25/2021
Christmas Day	12/25/2018	12/25/2019	12/25/2020	12/25/2021

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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](mailto:Barbara.a.Saltzberg@jpl.nasa.gov)

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