

# Mars Exploration Science Monthly Newsletter

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

October 2018

## Mars Science News

### Final 2018 MEPAG Goals Document now available

The MEPAG Goals Committee has completed their work on the 2018 MEPAG Goals Document, with revisions to Goals II and III. This work was completed over the last year, prompted by identified discrepancies between the current state of the field, and the existing (2015) MEPAG Goals document in the area of Polar Science and aeolian processes. Initial drafts were posted in June based on inputs received from the Mars Polar Science community; suggestions from the general community and MEPAG Executive Committee regarding these drafts were then incorporated. The 2018 MEPAG Goals document is now available here: <https://mepag.jpl.nasa.gov/reports.cfm?expand=science> and the community is encouraged to reference this version. We thank the community and MEPAG Goals Committee for their work on this revision!

### MEPAG Goals Committee membership changes

With the delivery of the 2018 MEPAG Goals Document, Goal II representative Paul Withers (Boston University) and Goal III representative Steve Ruff (Arizona State University) are rotating off the MEPAG Goals Committee. We thank them for their many years of service to the Mars community as Goal Representatives! We welcome Briony Horgan (Purdue University) to the MEPAG Goals Committee as the new representative for Goal III. (David Brain (University of Colorado, Boulder) had previously been added as the new Goal II representative, and contributed to the 2018 revision.) A current listing of MEPAG Goals Committee members can be found here: <https://mepag.jpl.nasa.gov/about.cfm>.

### 4<sup>th</sup> Mars 2020 Rover Landing Site Workshop: Final Program has been posted

October 16-18, 2018 - Glendale, CA

The **final program** for the 4th Mars 2020 Rover Landing Site Workshop is now available at the meeting website: [https://marsnext.jpl.nasa.gov/workshops/wkshp\\_2018\\_10.cfm](https://marsnext.jpl.nasa.gov/workshops/wkshp_2018_10.cfm). The workshop starts at 8:30am PDT each day, and will end at ~6pm on Tuesday/Wednesday and at 2:30pm on Thursday.

The Workshop will be broadcast via Adobe Connect for those unable to attend the workshop in person. **Connection information** will be posted on the meeting website. Note that to minimize noise on the call-in lines, all calls to the Workshop will be muted. Questions or comments from remote attendees can be posted to the Adobe Connect chat room, and they will be conveyed to the presenters as time allows.

**Registration** will close October 5; and although it is not required for attendance, it helps greatly with our planning and badge printing. Please register at:

[https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSeQ09vTvB3rqJXPOINPNxIZL7XSjK\\_zCHGMejVkvks8zIbABO/viewform](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSeQ09vTvB3rqJXPOINPNxIZL7XSjK_zCHGMejVkvks8zIbABO/viewform).

### Student Travel Grant available for Mars Extant Life:What's Next? Conference.

Deadline: November 15, 2018

Conference: January 29 – February 1, 2019; Carlsbad, NM, USA; <https://www.hou.usra.edu/meetings/lifeonmars2019/>

The Mars Program Office is offering up to three student travel grants to undergraduate and graduate student with Mars-related research interests, who are US citizens or legal residents. The travel grant application is due on the abstract deadline (November 15) and is available on the MEPAG web site: <https://mepag.jpl.nasa.gov/student.cfm?expand=student>. Questions about the travel grant should be directed to Kelly Perry ([Kelly.L.Perry@jpl.nasa.gov](mailto:Kelly.L.Perry@jpl.nasa.gov)).

## Upcoming Mars special issues, welcoming paper submissions

- *Planetary and Space Sciences* has approved a special issue on “Amazonian Mars: Climate & Processes,” with submissions accepted November 1, 2018 to February 28, 2019. Papers that describe the climate history as well as geological and environmental processes that pertain to the Amazonian period of Mars’ history which includes the present-day are solicited. The Amazonian period encompasses the most recent 3 billion years of Mars history, which has strongly shaped the evolution of the surface that we observe. Understanding the Amazonian climate is critical to linking present-day observations of the atmosphere, surface/subsurface volatile reservoirs, and related landforms to models of Mars’ present, recent past, and ancient climates. This special issue was prompted by the recent [Mars Workshop on Amazonian and Present-day Climate](#); submissions are welcome from the community and the lead guest editor is John Moores (York University).
- 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.

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


Due	Project
October 1	<b><i>JGR-Planets/GRL/JGR-Space Physics Joint Special Issue on "Studies of the 2018/Mars Year 34 Planet-Encircling Dust Storm"</i></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 3	<b>233rd Meeting of the American Astronomical Society</b> , Abstract 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>16th Venus Exploration Analysis Group Meeting</b> , Registration Deadline
November 1	<b><i>Planetary &amp; Space Sciences Special issue on “Amazonian Mars: Climate &amp; Processes</i></b> , Submission Begins
November 2	<b>Annual Meeting of the Lunar Exploration Analysis Group</b> , Registration Deadline
November 5	<b>The Space Astrophysics Landscape for the 2020s and Beyond</b> , Indication of Interest Deadline
November 7	<b>American Geophysical Union Fall Meeting</b> , Registration Deadline
November 8	<b>233rd Meeting of the American Astronomical Society</b> , Registration Deadline
November 15	<b>Mars Extant Life: What's Next?</b> , Abstract Deadline, Student Application for MPO Travel Grant Deadline
November 21	<b>Women in Space</b> , Abstract Deadline
November 30	<b>IEEE Aerospace Conference</b> , Early Registration Deadline
November 30	<b>2019 IAA Planetary Defense Conference</b> , Abstract Deadline
December 5	<b>233rd Meeting of the American Astronomical Society</b> , Late Abstract Deadline (Posters & iPosters Only)
December 10	<b>233rd Meeting of the American Astronomical Society</b> , Late Registration Deadline
December 31	<b>Mars Extant Life: What's Next?</b> , Registration Deadline
December 31	<b>Workshop on In-Situ Exploration of the Ice Giants</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.

Fourth Quarter, 2018		
	October 1-2, 2018 Houston, TX, USA	<b>Late Mars Workshop</b> , NCTS# 33678-19 <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.iafaastro.org/events/iac/iac-2018/">http://www.iafaastro.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>
	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>

First Quarter, 2019		
<b>New!</b>	January 6-10, 2019 Seattle, WA, USA	<b>233rd Meeting of the American Astronomical Society</b> , NCTS 33337-19 <a href="https://aas.org/meetings/aas233">https://aas.org/meetings/aas233</a>
	January 29-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>
<b>New!</b>	February 7-8, 2019 Scottsdale, AZ	<b>Women in Space</b> <a href="http://www.womeninspacecon.com/">http://www.womeninspacecon.com/</a>


### First Quarter, 2019

<b>New!</b>	February 25-27, 2019 Provence, France	<b>Workshop on In-Situ Exploration of the Ice Giants</b> <a href="https://ice-giant-workshop.lam.fr/">https://ice-giant-workshop.lam.fr/</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>	March 31-April 5, 2019 Puerto Vallarta, Mexico	<b>New Quests in Stellar Astrophysics IV: Astrochemistry, Astrobiology and the Origin of Life</b> <a href="https://www.inaoep.mx/~puerto19/">https://www.inaoep.mx/~puerto19/</a>

### Second Quarter, 2019

<b>New!</b>	April 1-3, 2019 Potomac, MD	<b>The Space Astrophysics Landscape for the 2020s and Beyond</b> , NCTS 36044-19 <a href="https://www.hou.usra.edu/meetings/landscape2019/">https://www.hou.usra.edu/meetings/landscape2019/</a>
	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>	May 14-16, 2019 Houston, TX	<b>3rd COSPAR Workshop on Planetary Protection for Human Missions to Mars</b>
<b>New!</b>	June 3-7, 2019 Heidelberg, Germany	<b>Planetary Dynamics 2019</b> <a href="http://www2.mpia-hd.mpg.de/homes/dynamics2019/">http://www2.mpia-hd.mpg.de/homes/dynamics2019/</a>
<b>New!</b>	June 10-13, 2019 Boulder, CO	<b>50th Annual Meeting of the Division of Dynamical Astronomy (DDA) of the AAS</b> <a href="https://dda.aas.org/meetings/2019">https://dda.aas.org/meetings/2019</a>
	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 Seattle, WA	<b>2019 Astrobiology Science Conference (AbSciCon)</b> , NCTS 36103-19 <a href="https://astrobiology.nasa.gov/news/abscicon-2019-save-the-date/">https://astrobiology.nasa.gov/news/abscicon-2019-save-the-date/</a>
	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>

### Third Quarter, 2019

<b>New!</b>	July 8-12, 2019 Oxford, UK	<b>International Planetary Probe Workshop 2019</b> <a href="https://ippw2019.uk/">https://ippw2019.uk/</a>
<b>Updated!</b>	July 14-18, 2019 Laurel, MD	<b>The Pluto System After New Horizons (PSANH)</b> <a href="https://www.hou.usra.edu/meetings/plutosystem2019/">https://www.hou.usra.edu/meetings/plutosystem2019/</a>
	July 22-26, 2019 Pasadena, CA, USA	<b>9th International Conference on Mars, NCTS# 31488-19</b> <a href="https://www.hou.usra.edu/meetings/ninthmars2019/">https://www.hou.usra.edu/meetings/ninthmars2019/</a>
<b>New!</b>	July 23-25, 2019 Moffett Park, CA	<b>NASA Exploration Science Forum 2019</b> <a href="https://nesf2019.arc.nasa.gov/">https://nesf2019.arc.nasa.gov/</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 8-12, 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>
<b>New!</b>	September 30-October 3, 2019 Brasilia, Brazil	<b>Large Meteorite Impacts and Planetary Evolution VI (LMI VI)</b> <a href="https://www.hou.usra.edu/meetings/lmi2019/">https://www.hou.usra.edu/meetings/lmi2019/</a>

### Forth Quarter, 2019

<b>New!</b>	November 4-8, 2019 Herzliya, Israel	<b>The 4th COSPAR Symposium: Small Satellites for Sustainable Science and Development</b> <a href="http://www.cospar2019.org/">http://www.cospar2019.org/</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)

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

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- 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 send an email from your email account to: [mepag-signup@jpl.nasa.gov](mailto:mepag-signup@jpl.nasa.gov).