

# Mars Exploration Science Monthly Newsletter

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

Issue: May 2009

**MEPAG Meeting #21: July 29-30, 2009 in Providence, Rhode Island.**

## *Mars Science News*

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### **MEPAG Meeting**

The next meeting will be hosted by Jack Mustard, the MEPAG Chair, at Brown University in Providence, Rhode Island, USA. This meeting will focus on the Mars community inputs to the Planetary Science Decadal Survey.

### **MEPAG Site on Planetary Sciences Decadal Survey**

The Mars Program Office has created a website to coordinate Mars community white paper inputs from the decadal survey: <http://mepag.jpl.nasa.gov/decadal/index.html>.

If you have a paper you are writing and would like to reach out to the community, please email your name and paper title to [Charles.J.Budney@jpl.nasa.gov](mailto:Charles.J.Budney@jpl.nasa.gov).

Decadal Survey website: <http://www7.nationalacademies.org/ssb/SSEdecadal2011.html>.

### **Mars Student Travel Awards**

The Mars Program Office has restarted the student travel award program. See the new opportunities at [http://mepag.jpl.nasa.gov/Student\\_Opportunities/index.html](http://mepag.jpl.nasa.gov/Student_Opportunities/index.html)

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

<b>Due</b>	<b>Project</b>
5/01	<b>2009 Planetary Science Summer School</b> applications due
5/01	Indication of interest – <b>Mars Dust Cycle Workshop</b>
5/05	<b>3<sup>rd</sup> International Workshop on Mars Polar Energy Balance and the CO2 Cycle</b> abstracts due
5/08	<b>European Planetary Science Congress</b> abstracts due
5/15	<b>6<sup>th</sup> Annual Planetary and Terrestrial Mining Sciences Symposium</b> abstract deadline
5/19	<b>New Martian Chemistry Workshop</b> abstracts due
7/22	<b>41<sup>st</sup> Annual DPS Meeting</b> abstracts due

## *Mars Community Announcements*

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### **Dear Science Community:**

I wanted to bring to your attention that a small group of up to 50 Mars polar scientists will gather to discuss the Mars polar energy balance and the CO2 cycle this summer in the

American Northwest. We want to bring together modelers, data analyzers, and laboratory experimenters for a dynamic discussion concerning new discoveries and current scientific questions. Ideally, we want representation from all spacecraft instruments that observe the Mars polar energy balance and/or the CO2 cycle.

Cheers,  
Tim Titus, Space Scientist, U.S. Geological Survey

## Upcoming Conferences and Workshops

Type	Date & Location	Event Information
<i>Second Quarter, 2009</i>		
	May 11, 2009 Denver, CO	<b>Next 2001 Mars Odyssey PSG Meeting</b> Contact Jeff Plaut ( <a href="mailto:Jeffrey.J.Plaut@jpl.nasa.gov">Jeffrey.J.Plaut@jpl.nasa.gov</a> )
	May 11-15, 2009 Noordwijk, THE NETHERLANDS	<b>International Conference on Comparative Planetology: Venus-Earth-Mars at ESTEC</b> Contact: Augustin Chicarro, <a href="mailto:Augustin.Chicarro@esa.int">Augustin.Chicarro@esa.int</a> or Hakan Svedhem, <a href="mailto:Hakan.Svedhem@esa.int">Hakan.Svedhem@esa.int</a> <a href="http://www.rssd.esa.int/eslab-2009/">http://www.rssd.esa.int/eslab-2009/</a>
	May 24-27, 2009 Toronto, Ontario, CANADA	<b>2009 GAC-MAC/AGU Joint Assembly</b> Further information can be found at <a href="http://www.agu.org/meetings/ja09/">http://www.agu.org/meetings/ja09/</a> Conveners: Jafar Arkani-Hamed ( <a href="mailto:jafar@physics.utoronto.ca">jafar@physics.utoronto.ca</a> ), Jaime Urrutia-Facugauchi ( <a href="mailto:juf@geofisica.unam.mx">juf@geofisica.unam.mx</a> ), and Hernan Ugalde ( <a href="mailto:ugaldeh@mcmaster.ca">ugaldeh@mcmaster.ca</a> )
	May 26-28, 2009 Darmstadt, GERMANY	<b>Mars Express Science Team Meeting</b> Location ESOC. Contact Agustín Chicarro, <a href="mailto:Agustin.Chicarro@esa.int">Agustin.Chicarro@esa.int</a>
	June 1-3, 2009 Houston, Texas, USA	<b>Workshop on Modeling Martian Hydrous Environments</b> The workshop will be held at the Lunar and Planetary Institute (LPI) Abstract deadline has been extended to Sunday, April 5, 2009. For more information or to submit an abstract, visit the meeting web site at: <a href="http://www.lpi.usra.edu/meetings/hydrous2009/">http://www.lpi.usra.edu/meetings/hydrous2009/</a>
	June 7-10, 2009 Toronto, CANADA	<b>6<sup>th</sup> Annual Planetary and Terrestrial Mining Sciences Symposium (PTMSS)</b> New this year, the 5 <sup>th</sup> Materials Science and Mining Symposium (MSMS) will be held in conjunction with the PTMSS. Abstract deadline May 15, 2009 See website for further details: <a href="http://www.ptmss.com">www.ptmss.com</a>
	June 11-17, 2009 Moscow, RUSSIA	<b>17<sup>th</sup> IAA Humans in Space Symposium</b> <a href="http://iaa-his2009.imbp.ru/index00e-s.html">http://iaa-his2009.imbp.ru/index00e-s.html</a>
	June 11-17, 2009 Pasadena, California, USA	<b>214<sup>th</sup> American Astronomical Society Meeting</b> <a href="http://aas.org/meetings/aas214">http://aas.org/meetings/aas214</a>
	<b>POSTPONED to 2010</b>	<b>Planetary Protection Short Course</b> <a href="http://www.planetaryprobe.eu/">http://www.planetaryprobe.eu/</a>

	June 14-20, 2009 Castellaneta M., ITALY	<b>XIV International Clay Conference</b> Note special session on Clay Minerals in Extraterrestrial Environments will include a plenary lecture by Dr. Nick Tosca, "Extracting Aqueous Chemistry from Clay-Bearing Assemblages Formed on Ancient Mars." <a href="http://www.14icc.org/">http://www.14icc.org/</a>
	June 15-16, 2009 Noordwijk, THE NETHERLANDS	<b>International Working Meeting ESA Requirements for a Mars Sample Return Biological Containment Facility</b> For information contact Dr. Peter Mani: <a href="mailto:peter@tecrisk.com">peter@tecrisk.com</a>
	June 25-26, 2009 San Antonio, Texas, USA	<b>Annual Meeting of Planetary Geologic Mappers</b> Location Trinity University (GIS workshop for mappers, June 23 and 24). Contact Les Bleamaster ( <a href="mailto:lbleamas@psi.edu">lbleamas@psi.edu</a> )
<i>Third Quarter, 2009</i>		
	June 29-July 13, 2009 Reykjavik, ICELAND	<b>Nordic-NASA Summer School</b> "Water, Ice and the Origin of Life in the Universe" <a href="http://www.nordicastrobiology.net/iceland2009/">http://www.nordicastrobiology.net/iceland2009/</a>
	July 6-8, 2009 Washington, DC, USA	<b>Planetary Decadal Survey: First Meeting</b> <a href="http://www7.nationalacademies.org/ssb/SSEdecadal2011.html">http://www7.nationalacademies.org/ssb/SSEdecadal2011.html</a>
	July 6-11, 2009 Melbourne, AUSTRALIA	<b>7<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Geomorphology Ancient Landscapes – Modern Perspectives</b> Melbourne Exhibition & Convention Centre There will be dedicated sessions on Planetary Geomorphology and a field trip to examine analog landscapes in South Australia. <a href="http://www.geomorphology2009.com/">http://www.geomorphology2009.com/</a>  (Submitted by Mary Bourke, Planetary Science Institute, Tucson, Arizona)
	July 13–18, 2009 Nancy, FRANCE	<b>72nd Annual Meeting of the Meteoritical Society</b> Contact: Marc Chaussidon, Guy Libourel or Bernard Marty <a href="http://www.metsoc2009.org/">http://www.metsoc2009.org/</a>
	July 20-24, 2009 Pasadena, California, USA	<b>2009 Planetary Science Summer School (First Session)</b> NASA is accepting applications from science and engineering post-docs, recent PhDs, and doctoral students for its 21 <sup>st</sup> Annual Planetary Science Summer School, which will hold two separate sessions this summer at the Jet Propulsion Laboratory in Pasadena, Calif. During the program, student teams will carry out the equivalent of an early mission concept study, prepare a proposal authorization review presentation, present it to a review board, and receive feedback. At the end of the week, students will have a clearer understanding of the life cycle of a space mission; relationships between mission design, cost, and schedule; and the tradeoffs necessary to stay within cost and schedule while preserving the quality of science. Applications are due May 1, 2009. Partial financial support is available for a limited number of individuals. Further information is available at <a href="http://pscischool.jpl.nasa.gov">http://pscischool.jpl.nasa.gov</a> .
	July 21-23, 2009 Moffett Field, California	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Annual NLSI Lunar Science Forum</b> Held at NASA Ames Research Conference Center Celebrate 40 <sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Apollo Moon landing, Sunday, July 19. Abstract submission deadline: May 22, 2009 Registration deadline: June 12, 2009 <a href="http://lunarscience2009.arc.nasa.gov">http://lunarscience2009.arc.nasa.gov</a>
	<b>Update</b> July 21-24, 2009 Seattle, Washington, USA	<b>3<sup>rd</sup> International Workshop on Mars Polar Energy Balance and the CO2 Cycle</b> Abstract deadline is May 5, 2009. <a href="http://www.lpi.usra.edu/meetings/mpeg2009/">http://www.lpi.usra.edu/meetings/mpeg2009/</a>

	July 21-23, 2009 Moffett Field, California, USA	<b>The 2nd ANNUAL NLSI LUNAR SCIENCE FORUM</b> The forum consists of invited and contributed oral and poster presentations, together with breakout sessions to plan for the future of lunar science and discuss other special topics. There will be a LEAG Community Meeting. <a href="http://lunarscience2009.arc.nasa.gov">http://lunarscience2009.arc.nasa.gov</a> contact: JEFFREY MOORE, SOC Chair, NASA ARC, <a href="mailto:LSIconf@nasa.gov">LSIconf@nasa.gov</a>
	July 27-28, 2009 Medford, Massachusetts, USA	<b>The New Martian Chemistry Workshop</b> For the sake of convenience, this workshop is contiguous with the MEPAG meeting at Brown University on July 29-30. Abstract deadline: May 19, 2009 – 5:00 p.m. U.S Central Daylight Time Visit the workshop website at: <a href="http://www.lpi.usra.edu/meetings/marschem2009/">http://www.lpi.usra.edu/meetings/marschem2009/</a>
	July 29-30, 2009 Providence, Rhode Island, USA	<b>MEPAG #21 meeting</b> Brown University
	August 11-15, 2009 SINGAPORE	<b>6<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting of the Asia Oceania Geosciences Society</b> 16 Sessions in Planetary Sciences covering various topics that include interiors, oceans, surfaces, atmospheres, ionospheres, magnetospheres of planets, satellites, comets, minor bodies.... Session details at: <a href="http://www.asiaoceania.org/aogs2009/public.asp?page=mars/confSessionList.asp">http://www.asiaoceania.org/aogs2009/public.asp?page=mars/confSessionList.asp</a> Conference: <a href="http://www.asiaoceania.org/aogs2009/">http://www.asiaoceania.org/aogs2009/</a>
	August 2009 Grenoble, FRANCE	<b>IEEE GRSS Workshop on Hyperspectral Image and Signal Processing</b> <a href="http://www.ieee-whispers.com/">http://www.ieee-whispers.com/</a>
	August 11-15, 2009 Pasadena, California, USA	<b>2009 Planetary Science Summer School (Second Session)</b> See description under July 20-24 1 <sup>st</sup> session.
	<b>Tentative Date</b> September 9-11, 2009 Location TBD	<b>First Mars Panel Meeting for the Decadal Survey</b>
	September 13-18, 2009 Potsdam, GERMANY	<b>European Planetary Science Congress</b> <a href="http://meetings.copernicus.org/epsc2009/information/index.html">http://meetings.copernicus.org/epsc2009/information/index.html</a> Abstracts due date: May 8, 2009
	September 15-17, 2009 Moffett Field, California, USA	<b>MARS DUST CYCLE WORKSHOP</b> The Martian climate system is characterized in terms of the seasonal cycles of dust, water, and CO <sub>2</sub> , which are coupled and driven by the general circulation. Recent workshops have focused on the water and CO <sub>2</sub> cycles, but a workshop focused on the dust cycle, perhaps the most complex component of the climate system overall, has not been held since the post Viking data analysis programs of the 1980's. Given the enormous volume of data acquired since then, as well as the advances in modeling and laboratory methods, the time is right to hold a workshop focused on dust cycle. This workshop seeks to understand the global behavior of dust in the atmosphere by focusing on its lifting, transport, and deposition in the present climate regime. <i>Indication of Interest Due: May 1, 2009</i> <a href="http://humbabe.arc.nasa.gov/MarsDustWorkshop/DustHome.html">http://humbabe.arc.nasa.gov/MarsDustWorkshop/DustHome.html</a> Convenor: Robert M. Haberle (NASA/Ames) <a href="mailto:Robert.M.Haberle@nasa.gov">Robert.M.Haberle@nasa.gov</a>

	September 20-23, 2009 Alghero, Sardinia, ITALY	<b>International Association of Sedimentologists (IAS) Meeting</b> Session T7: Sedimentology and Stratigraphy in the inner and Outer Solar System Field trip FT5: Tunisian desert: a perfect place to simulate landing on Mars <a href="http://www.ias2009.com/">http://www.ias2009.com/</a>
<i>Fourth Quarter, 2009</i>		
	October 4-9, 2009 Fajardo, Puerto Rico, USA	<b>41st Annual DPS Meeting</b> <a href="http://www.aas.org/dps/meetings.html">http://www.aas.org/dps/meetings.html</a> Abstracts deadline: July 22, 2009 Late abstracts deadline: September 8, 2009, 5:00 PM EDT / 21:00 UTC Deadline for reserving hotel rooms at the meeting rate: September 7, 2009
	October 12-14, 2009 Brussels, BELGIUM	<b>9th European Workshop on Astrobiology EANA'09</b> <a href="http://www.exobiologie.be/eana/">http://www.exobiologie.be/eana/</a> Contact: Christian Muller ( <a href="mailto:Christian.muller@aeronomie.be">Christian.muller@aeronomie.be</a> )
	October 12-14, 2009 Moscow, RUSSIA	<b>50th Vernadsky-Brown Microsymposium</b> This microsymposium will cover multiple topics in planetary science, with the last day devoted to the analysis of the Martian satellite Phobos. Sponsored by the Russian Foundation of Basic Research. Abstracts deadline September 5, 2009 Contacts: Alexander Basilevsky ( <a href="mailto:atbas@geokhi.ru">atbas@geokhi.ru</a> ) and James W. Head ( <a href="mailto:James.Head.III@Brown.edu">James.Head.III@Brown.edu</a> ) See web site for further details: <a href="http://www.planetology.ru/micro.php">http://www.planetology.ru/micro.php</a>
	October 12-16, 2009 Daejeon, SOUTH KOREA	<b>60th International Astronautical Congress (IAC)</b> <a href="http://www.iac2009.kr/">http://www.iac2009.kr/</a>
	12-16 October 2009 Tuscany, ITALY	<b>GEOLOGICAL MAPPING OF MARS: A WORKSHOP ON NEW CONCEPTS AND TOOLS (12-14 October) and FIELD TRIP ON THE GEOLOGY OF TUSCANY (15 - 16 October)</b> The workshop will focus on three currently evolving aspects to planetary geological mapping: (1) the identification and mapping of geological units and features, (2) the digital tools that provide an efficient way to assemble data and map the surface, and (3) the extension of surface contact mapping into the subsurface and in a 3D environment. Contact: Gian Gabriele Ori [ <a href="mailto:ggori@irsps.unich.it">ggori@irsps.unich.it</a> ] <a href="http://www.irsps.unich.it/education/mapping09">http://www.irsps.unich.it/education/mapping09</a>
	October 18-21, 2009 Portland, Oregon, USA	<b>Geological Society of America National Meeting</b> <a href="http://www.geosociety.org/meetings/">http://www.geosociety.org/meetings/</a>
 	<b>Tentative Date</b> October 28-30, 2009 Irvine, CA, USA	<b>Second Mars Panel Meeting for the Decadal Survey</b>
	October 28-30, 2009 Golden, Colorado, USA	<b>11th Space Resources Roundtable</b> Held at the Colorado School of Mines Joining individuals from the space exploration community, the financial sector and mining and minerals industries, the SRR seeks to bring together interested parties to discuss issues related to the In-Situ Resource Utilization (ISRU) of unar, asteroidal and martian resources. <a href="http://www.isruinfo.com/">http://www.isruinfo.com/</a>
	November 23-24, 2009 ESRIN, Frascati, ITALY	<b>Mars Express Science Team Meeting</b> Monday-Tuesday before the Workshop on Methane on Mars (TBC) – Contact Agustin Chicarro ( <a href="mailto:Agustin.Chicarro@esa.int">Agustin.Chicarro@esa.int</a> )

	November 25-27, 2009 ESRIN, Frascati, ITALY	<b>Joint ESA-ASI Workshop on Methane on Mars: Current Observations, Interpretation and Future Plans</b> The goal of the workshop is to review the potential reservoirs and release mechanisms of methane and its circulation in the atmosphere, and possible origins of this constituent. <a href="http://www.congrex.nl/09c26/">http://www.congrex.nl/09c26/</a> Abstract submission deadline: September 1, 2009 Contact Olivier Witasse ( <a href="mailto:Olivier.Witasse@esa.int">Olivier.Witasse@esa.int</a> )
	December 14–18, 2009 San Francisco, California, USA	<b>AGU Fall Meeting</b> <a href="http://www.agu.org/meetings">www.agu.org/meetings</a>
<b>2010</b>		
	<b>TENTATIVE</b> February 27-28, 2010 Monrovia, California, USA	<b>MEPAG #22</b>
	March 1-5, 2010 The Woodlands, Texas, USA	<b>Lunar and Planetary Science Conference #41</b> <a href="http://www.lpi.usra.edu/meetings/">http://www.lpi.usra.edu/meetings/</a>
	April 19-23, 2010 El Paso, Texas, USA	<b>First International Conference on Mars Sedimentology and Stratigraphy</b> A week-long conference including a 2-day field trip to look at the Mars analog sedimentary rocks that have filled the western part of the Permian Basin. Conference web site will be posted through LPI.
	June 12-13, 2010 Barcelona, SPAIN	<b>Planetary Protection Short Course</b> <a href="http://www.planetaryprobe.eu/">http://www.planetaryprobe.eu/</a>
	June 14-18, 2010 Barcelona, SPAIN	<b>7<sup>th</sup> International Planetary Probe Workshop</b> <a href="http://www.planetaryprobe.eu/">http://www.planetaryprobe.eu/</a>
	June 8-12, 2010 Oslo, NORWAY	<b>International Polar Year Oslo Science Conference</b> <a href="http://www.ipy-osc.no/">http://www.ipy-osc.no/</a>
	July 18–25, 2010 Bremen, GERMANY	<b>38th COSPAR Scientific Assembly</b> Abstract Deadline: Mid-February 2010 Topics: - SC B: The Earth-Moon System, Planets, and Small Bodies of the Solar System - SC C: The Upper Atmospheres of the Earth and Planets Including Reference Atmospheres - SC D: Space Plasmas in the Solar System, Including Planetary Magnetospheres - SC F : Astrobiology and Space Science, Including Habitability on Mars : Past, Present & Future - Panel on Planetary Protection (PPP) Contact: <a href="mailto:cospar@cosparhq.cnes.fr">cospar@cosparhq.cnes.fr</a> <a href="http://www.cospar2010.org/">http://www.cospar2010.org/</a> or <a href="http://www.cospar-assembly.org">http://www.cospar-assembly.org</a>
	July 25 or August 1, 2010 Toronto, Ontario CANADA	<b>73rd Annual Meeting of the Meteoritical Society</b> Contact: Dr. G. Srinivasan <a href="http://www.meteoriticalsociety.org/simple_template.cfm?code=news_meetings">http://www.meteoriticalsociety.org/simple_template.cfm?code=news_meetings</a>
	September 2010	<b>Fourth MSL Landing Site workshop</b>
	October 18-22, 2010 Madison, Wisconsin, USA	<b>42nd Annual Meeting of the DPS</b> <a href="http://www.aas.org/dps/meetings.html">http://www.aas.org/dps/meetings.html</a>

	October 31– November 3, 2010 Denver, Colorado, USA	<b>Geological Society of America National Meeting</b> <a href="http://www.geosociety.org/meetings/">http://www.geosociety.org/meetings/</a>
	December 13–17, 2010 San Francisco, California, USA	<b>AGU Fall Meeting</b> <a href="http://www.agu.org/meetings">www.agu.org/meetings</a>
<i>2011</i>		
	April 2011	<b>Fifth MSL Landing Site workshop</b>
	July 2013 Pasadena, California, USA	<b>8<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Mars</b> California Institute of Technology
	August 2011 Greenwich England, UNITED KINGDOM	<b>74th Annual Meeting of the Meteoritical Society</b> Contact: Gretchen Benedix <a href="http://www.meteoriticalsociety.org/simple_template.cfm?code=news_meetings">http://www.meteoriticalsociety.org/simple_template.cfm?code=news_meetings</a>
	October 2011 Nice, FRANCE	<b>43rd Annual Meeting of the DPS</b> <a href="http://www.aas.org/dps/meetings.html">http://www.aas.org/dps/meetings.html</a>
	October 9–12, 2011 Minneapolis, Minnesota, USA	<b>Geological Society of America National Meeting</b> <a href="http://www.geosociety.org/meetings/">http://www.geosociety.org/meetings/</a>
	December 12–16, 2011 San Francisco, California, USA	<b>AGU Fall Meeting</b> <a href="http://www.agu.org/meetings">www.agu.org/meetings</a>
<i>2012</i>		
	August 2012 Cairns, Queensland AUSTRALIA	<b>75th Annual Meeting of the Meteoritical Society</b> Contact: Trevor Ireland <a href="http://www.meteoriticalsociety.org/simple_template.cfm?code=news_meetings">http://www.meteoriticalsociety.org/simple_template.cfm?code=news_meetings</a>
	August 2012 Brisbane, AUSTRALIA	<b>The 34<sup>th</sup> International Geological Congress</b> <a href="http://www.33iqc.org/">http://www.33iqc.org/</a>

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

Good Friday	4/10/2009	4/2/2010	4/22/2011	4/6/2012	3/29/2013
Rosh Hashanah	9/19/2009	9/9/2010	9/29/2011	9/17/2012	9/5/2013
Yom Kippur	9/28/2009	9/18/2010	10/8/2011	9/26/2012	9/14/2013
(Note that Jewish holidays start at sundown the previous evening).					
Thanksgiving Day, U.S.	11/26/2009	11/25/2010	11/24/2011	11/22/2012	11/28/2013
Thanksgiving Day, Canada	10/12/2009	10/11/2010	10/10/2011	10/8/2012	10/14/2013

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Please send your Mars Community Announcements and calendar items for inclusion in next month's email to Joyce Pulliam, [Joyce.N.Pulliam@jpl.nasa.gov](mailto:Joyce.N.Pulliam@jpl.nasa.gov), 818-393-0444.

All announcements listed in this newsletter will be posted on the MEPAG website, available at <http://mepag.jpl.nasa.gov>.