

# Mars Exploration Science Monthly Newsletter

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

Issue: February 2010

Next MEPAG meeting March 17-18, 2010, Monrovia, California.

## Mars Science News

### *Reminder: Planetary Science Subcommittee Teleconference*

This is a gentle reminder that we are having a Planetary Science Subcommittee (PSS) teleconference on Wednesday, February 3, 2010, from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. EST. The two topics will be:

- Update on the status of MSL
- Overview of the President's 2011 Budget Request

This meeting will take place by telephone and by WebEx. Any interested person may call the USA toll free conference number (866) 844-9416, pass code PSS, to participate in this meeting by telephone. The WebEx link is <https://nasa.webex.com/> (meeting number 993131217, and password PS\$M33ting).

Regards,  
Michael H. New, PhD.  
NASA Planetary Science Division

### *Mars Critical Data Products V Request for Proposals*

The Mars Program Office at the Jet Propulsion Laboratory has issued a Request for Proposals for the Mars Critical Data Products V (CDP-V) program. CDP-V covers two areas: MAVEN support and Future Landing Sites Analysis.

The RFP will be available at <http://acquisition.jpl.nasa.gov/rfp/> or at <http://mepag.jpl.nasa.gov/cdp/index.html> within a few days. Proposals are due March 1, 2010.

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

Due	Project
2/1	<b>GeoCanada 2010 Meeting</b> abstract deadline
2/2	<b>First International Conference on Mars Sedimentology and Straigraphy</b> abstracts deadline
2/19	<b>38<sup>th</sup> COSPAR Scientific Assembly</b> abstracts deadline
2/21	<b>Goldschmidt Conference</b> abstracts deadline
3/1	<b>Laboratory Planetary Sciences</b> abstracts deadline
4/8	<b>Nordlingen 2010</b> abstracts deadline

## *2016 ExoMars Trace Gas Orbiter AO Has Been Released*

The Announcement of Opportunity for payload experiments on the ExoMars 2016 Trace Gas Orbiter was released on 15 Jan. It can be found on NASA's NSPIRES site: <http://nspires.nasaprs.com/> as Amendment 4 of Stand Alone Missions of Opportunity Notice (SALMON), Solicitation NNH08ZDA0090 (under 'Open Solicitations').

See also:

<http://salmon.larc.nasa.gov/SALMONreflib.html#ExoMars> and ESA's Exploration web page: <http://exploration.esa.int/>

Typical potential orbiter experiments are:

- \* Solar Fourier Transform IR Spectrometer: Broad survey of trace gases with high precision
- \* Solar-Nadir IR Mapper: Detection and mapping of specific trace gases
- \* Sub-mm Spectrometer profiler/mapper Atmospheric temperature & winds plus H<sub>2</sub>O and specific trace gases
- \* Thermal IR profiler/mapper spectrometer or radiometer for atmospheric temperature and dust, plus H<sub>2</sub>O and some trace gases
- \* Wide Angle Camera imaging atmospheric phenomena for discriminating between surface, dust clouds, & ice clouds
- \* High Resolution Color Stereo Camera: Surface imaging

Please contact international colleagues to discuss useful scientific collaborations. We hope to receive some excellent instrument proposals for this first ESA-NASA collaborative mission.

## *Make Your Own Suggestions for HiRISE*

The HiRISE Team has launched a new public suggestion tool, called HiWish, <http://hirise.lpl.arizona.edu/releases/hiwish.php>. You can suggest your own targets, as well as be notified when that suggestion is acquired and released to the PDS.

More details about HiWish can be found in our LPSC abstract: <http://www.lpi.usra.edu/meetings/lpsc2010/pdf/2458.pdf> or you can just go straight there and start suggesting targets: <http://www.uahirise.org/suggest/>.

Ross Beyer

<http://RossBeyer.net/science>

*Dear Colleagues,*

On behalf of the Planetary Sciences Division of the Geological Association of Canada (GAC) (<http://uwo.ca/earth/GACPSD>), I would like to bring your attention to two Special Sessions sponsored by our division at the upcoming GeoCanada 2010 meeting, to be held in Calgary this May:

- Comparative Studies of the Earth, Moon and Mars: Implications for Life, Resources and Planetary Evolution
- Meteorites

The abstract deadline has been extended until February 1<sup>st</sup>.

All the best,  
 Gordon Osinski  
 The Planetary Sciences Division Executive  
 (<http://uwo.ca/earth/GACPSD/executive.html>)

## Upcoming Conferences and Workshops

Type	Date & Location	Event Information
<i>First Quarter, 2010</i>		
	February 18-20, 2010 Boulder, Colorado, USA	<b>Next-Generation Suborbital Researchers Conference</b> Announcement at <a href="http://lpi.usra.edu/meetings/nsrc2010">http://lpi.usra.edu/meetings/nsrc2010</a>
	February 22-24, 2010 Irvine, California, USA	<b>Decadal Survey Steering Group</b>
	February 27-28, 2010 The Woodlands, Texas, USA	<b>Brown-Vernadsky Microsymposium 51</b> Compositional Structure of the Lunar Crust: The New View from the Moon, Sponsored by Brown University, The Vernadsky Inst., Brown/MIT NLSI. Apollo and Luna exploration and sample return missions were targeted to specific areas of high interest. <a href="http://www.planetary.brown.edu/planetary/international/micro51.html">http://www.planetary.brown.edu/planetary/international/micro51.html</a>
	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>
	March 14-17, 2010 Honolulu, Hawaii, USA	<b>ASCE Earth and Space 2010 Conference</b> There will be 15 symposia, including Exploration and Utilization of Extraterrestrial Bodies and NASA/ARO/ASCE Workshop on Granular Materials in Lunar and Martian Exploration. <a href="http://content.asce.org/conferences/earthspace2010/index.html">http://content.asce.org/conferences/earthspace2010/index.html</a>
	March 17-18, 2010 Monrovia, California, USA	<b>Mars Exploration Program Analysis Group (MEPAG #22)</b> <a href="http://mepag.jpl.nasa.gov/meeting/mar-10/index.html">http://mepag.jpl.nasa.gov/meeting/mar-10/index.html</a>
	March 28-April 2, 2010 Valley of Chamonix, FRANCE	<b>Planet Mars III Workshop – Les Houches</b> Contact Oliver Witasse at <a href="mailto:owitasse@rssd.esa.int">owitasse@rssd.esa.int</a> <a href="http://www.rssd.esa.int/index.php?project=MARSEXPRES&amp;page=planet_mars3">http://www.rssd.esa.int/index.php?project=MARSEXPRES&amp;page=planet_mars3</a>
<i>Second Quarter, 2010</i>		
	April 12-14, 2010 Boulder, Colorado, USA	<b>Decadal Survey Satellites Panel</b>
	April 14-16, 2010 Boulder, Colorado, USA	<b>Decadal Survey Mars Panel</b>
	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. <a href="http://www.lpi.usra.edu/meetings/marssted2010/index.shtml">http://www.lpi.usra.edu/meetings/marssted2010/index.shtml</a>
	April 21-23, 2010 Boulder, Colorado, USA	<b>Decadal Survey Inner Planets Panel</b>

	April 26-28, 2010 Knoxville, Tennessee, USA	<b>Decadal Survey Primitive Bodies Panel</b>
	<b>Update</b> April 26-29, 2010 League City, Texas, USA	<b>Astrobiology Science Conference 2010</b> <a href="http://www.lpi.usra.edu/meetings/abscicon2010/abscicon20101st.shtml">http://www.lpi.usra.edu/meetings/abscicon2010/abscicon20101st.shtml</a>
	May 2-7, 2010 Vienna, AUSTRIA	<b>European Geosciences Union (EGU) – General Assembly 1010</b>
	May 3-6, 2010 Monastir, TUNISIA	<b>Astronomical Data Analysis (ADA6)</b> <a href="http://www.aset.org.tn/conf/ADA6">http://www.aset.org.tn/conf/ADA6</a>
	May 4-7, 2010 Noordwijk, NETHERLANDS	<b>Herschel First Results Symposium (ESLAB 2010)</b> <a href="http://herschel.esac.esa.int/FirstResultsSymposium.shtml">http://herschel.esac.esa.int/FirstResultsSymposium.shtml</a>
	May 5-7, 2010 Boston, Massachusetts, USA	<b>Decadal Survey Giant Planets Panel</b> (or Woods Hole, MA)
	May 11, 2010 Pasadena, California USA	<b>Next 2001 Mars Odyssey PSG</b> Jet Propulsion Laboratory
	May 18-21, 2010 Alamosa, Colorado, USA	<b>Second International Planetary Dunes Workshop: Planetary Analogs – Integrating Models, Remote Sensing, and Field Data</b> <a href="http://www.lpi.usra.edu/meetings/dunes2010">http://www.lpi.usra.edu/meetings/dunes2010</a>
	May 25-27, 2010 Washington, DC, USA	<b>Decadal Survey Steering Group</b>
	June 1–August 9, 2010 Houston, Texas, USA	<b>Lunar Exploration Summer Intern Program</b> Hosted by Lunar Planetary Institute (LPI) Contact Dr. David Kring at <a href="mailto:kring@lpi.usra.edu">kring@lpi.usra.edu</a> <a href="http://www.lpi.usra.edu/lunar_intern/">http://www.lpi.usra.edu/lunar_intern/</a>
	June 2-4, 2010 Kiruna, SWEDEN	<b>Mars Express Science Working Team Meeting</b> Contact Oliver Witasse at <a href="mailto:owitasse@rssd.esa.int">owitasse@rssd.esa.int</a>
	June 12-13, 2010 Barcelona, SPAIN	<b>Planetary Protection Short Course</b> <a href="http://www.planetaryprobe.eu/">http://www.planetaryprobe.eu/</a>

	<p><b>Update</b> June 13-18, 2010 Knoxville, Tennessee, USA</p>	<p><b>Goldschmidt Conference</b> <a href="http://www.goldschmidt2010.org/">http://www.goldschmidt2010.org/</a> Contact: Hap McSween at <a href="mailto:mcsween@utk.edu">mcsween@utk.edu</a> Abstracts submission deadline February 21, 2010 Online registration deadline May 18, 2010</p> <p><b>Session 01d: The New Mars: Geochemistry of a Neighbor Planet</b> Conveners: Dave Des Marais (NASA Ames) and Scott McLennan (Stony Brook)</p> <p>Keynote: Lisa Pratt (Indiana) Mars is the one other planet in the solar system that apparently had a climate most similar to that of Earth. Mars differentiated very early into a core, mantle and crust; it preserved an ancient geological record that has no parallel on Earth; and it evolved mostly if not completely without plate tectonics. An early hydrological cycle sustained precipitation, streams and lakes. Later, volcanism, impacts, groundwater, and ice interacted at least locally. Liquid water participated in rock weathering reactions, such as iron and sulfur oxidation, that created distinctive weathering regimes and potentially sustained life. Methane in the atmosphere apparently requires a strong subsurface source(s). Conditions therefore could have supported life sometime in the past and perhaps could even sustain it today. This session will highlight recent geochemical investigations that are unveiling "the new Mars" and will lead ultimately to determining its geochemical evolution and whether life ever developed.</p>
	<p>June 14-16, 2010 Brittany, FRANCE</p>	<p><b>Faraday Discussion 147: Chemistry of the Planets</b> Saint Jacut de la Mer. Contact: Ian Sims, <a href="mailto:ian.sims@univ-rennes1.fr">ian.sims@univ-rennes1.fr</a> <a href="http://www.rsc.org/ConferencesAndEvents/RSCConferences/FD147/index.asp">http://www.rsc.org/ConferencesAndEvents/RSCConferences/FD147/index.asp</a></p>
	<p>June 14-18, 2010 Barcelona, SPAIN</p>	<p><b>7<sup>th</sup> International Planetary Probe Workshop 2010 (IPPW-7)</b> <a href="http://www.planetaryprobe.eu/">http://www.planetaryprobe.eu/</a></p>
	<p>June 8-12, 2010 Oslo, NORWAY</p>	<p><b>International Polar Year Oslo Science Conference</b> <a href="http://www.ipy-osc.no/">http://www.ipy-osc.no/</a></p>
	<p>June 22-23, 2010 Flagstaff, Arizona, USA</p>	<p><b>The Annual Meeting of Planetary Geologic Mappers</b> Contact: Les Bleamas (<a href="mailto:lbleamas@psi.edu">lbleamas@psi.edu</a>)</p>
	<p>June 25-27, 2010 Nordlingen, GERMANY</p>	<p><b>Nordlingen 2010: The Ries Crater, the Moon, and the Future of Human Space Exploration</b> Deadline for abstract submission is April 8, 2010, 5:00 p.m. (CDT) Deadline for registration is June 1, 2010 <a href="http://www.lpi.usra.edu/meetings/nordlingen2010/nordlingen20101st.shtml">http://www.lpi.usra.edu/meetings/nordlingen2010/nordlingen20101st.shtml</a></p>
<i>Third Quarter, 2010</i>		
	<p>July 2010</p>	<p><b>Third MSL Landing Site Engineering Assessment Workshop</b></p>
	<p>July 5-9, 2010 Hyderabad, INDIA</p>	<p><b>Laboratory Planetary Sciences at AOGS 2010</b> Call for abstracts – deadline March 1, 2010 <a href="http://www.asiaoceania.org/aogs2010">http://www.asiaoceania.org/aogs2010</a></p>

	July 18–25, 2010 Bremen, GERMANY	<b>38th COSPAR Scientific Assembly</b> Abstract Deadline: February 19, 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 26-30, 2010 New York, New York, USA	<b>73rd Annual Meeting of the Meteoritical Society</b> Contact: Dr. Denton Ebel <a href="http://www.meteoriticalsociety.org/simple_template.cfm?code=news_meetings">http://www.meteoriticalsociety.org/simple_template.cfm?code=news_meetings</a>
	July 26-30, 2010 Pasadena, California, USA	<b>2010 Sagan Summer Workshop</b> <a href="http://nexsci.caltech.edu/workshop/2010/index.shtml">http://nexsci.caltech.edu/workshop/2010/index.shtml</a>
	September 2010	<b>Fourth MSL Landing Site Community Workshop</b>
	September 19-25, 2010 Rome, ITALY	<b>European Planetary Science Congress 2010</b> <a href="http://meetings.copernicus.org/epsc2010/">http://meetings.copernicus.org/epsc2010/</a>
<i>Fourth Quarter, 2010</i>		
	October 4-8, 2010 Sapporo, JAPAN	<b>5<sup>th</sup> Alfvén Conference: Plasma Interaction with Non-Magnetized Planets/Moons and Its Influence on Planetary Evolution</b> <a href="http://www.ep.sci.hokudai.ac.jp/~alfven5/">http://www.ep.sci.hokudai.ac.jp/~alfven5/</a>
	October 3-8, 2010 Pasadena, California, 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>
	November 8-9, 2010 NETHERLANDS	<b>Mars Express Science Working Team Meeting joint with Venus Express Science Team Meeting</b> Contact Oliver Witasse at <a href="mailto:owitasse@rssd.esa.int">owitasse@rssd.esa.int</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>		
	March 2011	<b>Fifth MSL Landing Site Community Workshop</b>
	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.33igc.org/">http://www.33igc.org/</a>
<i>2013</i>		
	July 2013 Pasadena, California, USA	<b>8th International Conference on Mars</b> California Institute of Technology

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

Good Friday	4/2/2010	4/22/2011	4/6/2012	3/29/2013	4/18/2014
Rosh Hashanah	9/9/2010	9/29/2011	9/17/2012	9/5/2013	9/25/2014
Yom Kippur	9/18/2010	10/8/2011	9/26/2012	9/14/2013	10/4/2014
(Note that Jewish holidays start at sundown the previous evening).					
Thanksgiving Day, U.S.	11/25/2010	11/24/2011	11/22/2012	11/28/2013	11/27/2014
Thanksgiving Day, Canada	10/11/2010	10/10/2011	10/8/2012	10/14/2013	10/13/2014

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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>.