

# Mars Exploration Science Monthly Newsletter

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

Issue: May 2011

**Next MEPAG meeting June 16-17, 2011, Lisbon, Portugal**

## Mars Science News

### Final MSL Landing Site Workshop

The fifth and final landing site workshop for the 2011 Mars Science Laboratory (MSL) mission will be held May 16-18, 2011, at the DoubleTree Hotel in Monrovia, California. All members of the scientific community are encouraged to participate in this important activity.

The program for the workshop is posted at: <http://marsoweb.nas.nasa.gov/landingsites/> and <http://webgis.wr.usgs.gov/msl/>. The meeting will be broadcast via WebEx and information on how to access the workshop will be posted at these same websites just prior to the workshop.


Input from the science community is critical to identifying the optimal landing site for the MSL. We look forward to your continued involvement!

Sincerely,  
John Grant and Matt Golombek  
Co-Chairs, Mars Landing Site Steering Committee

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

Due	Project
5/9	<b>Pre-JpGU Meeting</b> registration deadline
5/31	<b>EPSC-DPS 2011</b> abstracts deadline
6/26	<b>2011 Gordon Research Conf. on Origins of Solar Systems</b> abstracts deadline
7/26	<b>Geological Society of America</b> abstracts deadline
8/4	<b>AGU Fall Meeting</b> abstracts deadline
8/26	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Planetary Crater Consortium Meeting</b> abstracts deadline

### Upcoming Conferences and Workshops

Type	Date & Location	Event Information
<i>Second Quarter, 2011</i>		
	May 3-4, 2011 Madrid, SPAIN	<b>Mars Express Science Working Team Meeting</b> European Space Astronomy Center (ESAC)

	May 4-6, 2011 Pisa, ITALY	<b>Solar System Science Before and After Gaia</b> <a href="http://www.oca.eu/workshop/Pise/">http://www.oca.eu/workshop/Pise/</a>
	May 16-18, 2011 Pasadena, CA area, USA	<b>Final MSL Landing Site Workshop</b> Details on each of the candidate landing sites and all MSL landing site activities to date can be found at: <a href="http://marsoweb.nas.nasa.gov/landingsites/">http://marsoweb.nas.nasa.gov/landingsites/</a> and <a href="http://webqis.wr.usgs.gov/msl/">http://webqis.wr.usgs.gov/msl/</a> .
	May 18-20, 2011 Madrid, SPAIN	<b>Conference on Micro-Raman Spectroscopy and Luminescence Studies in the Earth and Planetary Sciences (CORALS II)</b> <a href="http://www.lpi.usra.edu/meetings/corals2011/">http://www.lpi.usra.edu/meetings/corals2011/</a>
	May 22-27, 2011 Chiba-city, JAPAN	<b>Japan Geoscience Union International Symposium 2011</b> Pre-JpGU Meeting registration deadline May 9, 2011 <a href="http://www.jpqu.org/meeting_e/index.htm">http://www.jpqu.org/meeting_e/index.htm</a>
	May 24-25, 2011 Boulder, CO, USA	<b>MRO PSG Meeting</b>
	June 6-10, 2011 Portsmouth, VA, USA	<b>8<sup>th</sup> International Planetary Probe Workshop (IPPW-8)</b> Contact David Atkinson, <a href="mailto:Atkinson@uidaho.edu">Atkinson@uidaho.edu</a> June 4-5, Short Course: Atmospheric Flight Systems Tehcnologies
	June 5-8, 2011 Bozeman, MT, USA	<b>AbGradCon 2011 – Astrobiology Graduate Student Conference</b> <a href="http://abgradcon2011.org/">http://abgradcon2011.org/</a>
	June 8, 2011 Pasadena, CA, USA	<b>Mars Odyssey 2001 PSG</b> Location: Jet Propulsion Laboratory
	June 13-15, 2011 Houston, TX, USA	<b>A Wet vs. Dry Moon: Exploring Volatile Reservoirs and Implications for the Evolution of the Moon and Future Exploration</b> <a href="http://www.lpi.usra.edu/meetings/volatiles2011/">http://www.lpi.usra.edu/meetings/volatiles2011/</a>
	June 13-15, 2011 Lisbon, PORTUGAL	<b>International Conference on Mars on “The Exploration of Mars Habitability”</b> <b>Pre-Conference Mars Science Team Meetings:</b> June 12-13 (1.5) days. Open for Mars science team meetings. <b>Post-Meeting Field Trip: Rio Tinto, Spain:</b> June 18-20/21 (3-4 days). Visit to unique geology and acidic environment. <a href="http://www.congrex.nl/11a14/">http://www.congrex.nl/11a14/</a>
	June 16-17, 2011 Lisbon, PORTUGAL	<b>First International MEPAG Meeting</b>
	June 19-22, 2011 Ottawa, Ontario, CANADA	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Joint Planetary and Terrestrial Mining Sciences Symposium and Space Resources Roundtable (PTMSS/SRR)</b> <a href="http://www.ptmss.com">http://www.ptmss.com</a>
	June 21-24, 2011 Laurel, MD, USA	<b>9<sup>th</sup> IAA Low Cost Planetary Missions Conference</b> Johns Hopkins University Applied Physics Laboratory <a href="http://lcpm9.jhuapl.edu/index.php">http://lcpm9.jhuapl.edu/index.php</a> for more information
	June 22-24, 2011 Greenbelt, MD, USA	<b>The Annual Meeting of Planetary Mappers</b> Contact Les Bleamaster ( <a href="mailto:lbleamas@psi.edu">lbleamas@psi.edu</a> )
	June 28 – July 7, 2011 Melbourne, AUSTRALIA	<b>IUGG/IAMAS General Assembly</b> J-M07 Atmospheres and ices on terrestrial planets <a href="http://www.iugg2011.com/program-iamas.asp">http://www.iugg2011.com/program-iamas.asp</a>

*Third Quarter, 2011*

	July 3-8, 2011 Montpellier, FRANCE	<b>ISSOL – The International Astrobiology Society an IAU C51 (Bioastronomy) Joint International Conference</b> <a href="http://www.origins2011.univ-montp2.fr/">http://www.origins2011.univ-montp2.fr/</a>
	July 11-14, 2011 Cologne, GERMANY	<b>European Astrobiology Network Association (EANA) 2011</b> Planets and life: evolution and distribution <a href="http://www.eana2011.de/">http://www.eana2011.de/</a>
	July 17, 2011 Moffett Field, CA, USA	<b>LunGradCon 2011</b> First announcement of the 2 <sup>nd</sup> Annual Lunar Graduate Conference to be held at NASA Ames Research Center preceding the NASA Lunar Science Forum. <a href="http://lasp.colorado.edu/cclidas/lqc2011">http://lasp.colorado.edu/cclidas/lqc2011</a>
	July 17-22, 2011 South Hadley, MA, USA	<b>2011 Gordon Research Conference on Origins of Solar Systems</b> Applications deadline is June 26, 2011. Apply early because it is expected to be oversubscribed. <a href="http://www.grc.org">http://www.grc.org</a>
	August 8-12, 2011 Taipei, TAIWAN	<b>AOGS 2011 – Asia Oceania Geosciences Society</b> <i>PS08 Session on Science and Exploration of Mars</i> , where results of ongoing and future international missions to Mars will be discussed. <i>PS08 Session Information:</i> This session will address the latest results of the different ongoing missions in orbit around Mars as well as those on the surface of the red planet. It will cover all fields of research from the ionosphere and the atmosphere to the surface and interior of Mars. <a href="http://www.asiaoceania.org/aogs2011/public.asp?page=home.htm">http://www.asiaoceania.org/aogs2011/public.asp?page=home.htm</a>
	August 8-12, 2011 Greenwich, ENGLAND	<b>74th Annual Meeting of the Meteoritical Society</b> Contact: Gretchen Benedix ( <a href="mailto:g.benedix@nhm.ac.uk">g.benedix@nhm.ac.uk</a> ) <a href="http://www.metsoc2011.org">http://www.metsoc2011.org</a>
	August 14-19, 2011 Prague, Czech Republic	<b>Goldschmidt 2011</b> <a href="http://www.goldschmidt2011.org/">http://www.goldschmidt2011.org/</a>
	August 28 – September 1, 2011 Denver, CO, USA	<b>2011 American Chemical Society National Meeting (ACS)</b> <a href="http://portal.acs.org/portal/acs/corg/content?_nfpb=true&amp;_pageLabel=P_P_ARTICLEMAIN&amp;node_id=395&amp;content_id=CNBP_026588&amp;use_sec=true&amp;sec_url_var=region1&amp;uuid=59eee62c-ccc8-49f8-ac9d-1e804c374630">http://portal.acs.org/portal/acs/corg/content?_nfpb=true&amp;_pageLabel=P_P_ARTICLEMAIN&amp;node_id=395&amp;content_id=CNBP_026588&amp;use_sec=true&amp;sec_url_var=region1&amp;uuid=59eee62c-ccc8-49f8-ac9d-1e804c374630</a>
	September 13, 2011	<b>Start of Mars Northern Spring</b>
	September 12-16, 2011 Fairbanks, AK, USA	<b>Fifth International Conference on Mars Polar Science and Exploration</b> <a href="http://www.lpi.usra.edu/meetings/polar2011/">http://www.lpi.usra.edu/meetings/polar2011/</a>
	September 14-16, 2011 Flagstaff, AZ, USA	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Planetary Crater Consortium Meeting</b> Location: U.S. Geological Survey Abstracts deadline August 26, 2011 <a href="http://www.planetarycraterconsortium.nau.edu/PCCMeeting.htm">http://www.planetarycraterconsortium.nau.edu/PCCMeeting.htm</a>
	September 21-23, 2011 Barcelona, SPAIN	<b>COST CM-0805 Nitrogen in Planetary Systems: The Early Evolution of the Atmospheres of Terrestrial Planets: The Role of N<sub>2</sub></b> <a href="http://ulisse.busoc.be/cost/barcelona-meeting.php">http://ulisse.busoc.be/cost/barcelona-meeting.php</a>

*Fourth Quarter, 2011*

	October 3-7, 2011 Nantes, FRANCE	<b>EPSC-DPS 2011</b> A joint meeting of the European Planetary Science Congress (EPSC) and the American Astronomical Society Division for Planetary Sciences (DPS) Session 8297 – Active Surface Processes on Mars Abstracts deadline May 31, 2011 <a href="http://meetings.copernicus.org/epsc-dps2011/">http://meetings.copernicus.org/epsc-dps2011/</a>
	October 3-7, 2011 Capetown, SOUTH AFRICA	<b>62<sup>nd</sup> International Astronautical Congress 2011</b> <a href="http://iac2011.com">http://iac2011.com</a>
	October 9-12, 2011 Minneapolis, MN, USA	<b>Geological Society of America Annual Meeting</b> Abstracts deadline July 26, 2011 <a href="http://www.geosociety.org/meetings/">http://www.geosociety.org/meetings/</a>
	November 7-9, 2011 Kitakyushu City, JAPAN	<b>2011 PERC Planetary Geology Field Symposium</b> Deadline for registration and abstracts submission will be early August <a href="http://www.perc.it-chiba.ac.jp/meetings/pgfs-2011/">http://www.perc.it-chiba.ac.jp/meetings/pgfs-2011/</a>
	November 7-9, 2011 Houston, TX, USA	<b>Lunar Exploration Analysis Group (LEAG 2011)</b> <a href="http://www.lpi.usra.edu/meetings/leag2011/">http://www.lpi.usra.edu/meetings/leag2011/</a>
	November 25- December 18, 2011	<b>MSL Launch Period</b>
	December 12-16, 2011 San Francisco, CA, USA	<b>AGU Fall Meeting</b> Abstracts deadline August 4, 2011 <a href="http://www.agu.org/meetings">www.agu.org/meetings</a>
<b>2012</b>		
	March 19-23, 2012 The Woodlands, TX, USA	<b>43<sup>rd</sup> Lunar and Planetary Science Conference</b> <a href="http://www.lpi.usra.edu/meetings/lpsc2012">http://www.lpi.usra.edu/meetings/lpsc2012</a>
	March 30, 2012	<b>Start of Mars Northern Summer</b>
	July 14-22, 2012 Mysore, INDIA	<b>COSPAR 2012 Scientific Assembly</b> Abstracts deadline – mid-February 2012 <a href="http://cosparhq.cnes.fr/Meetings/sciass.htm">http://cosparhq.cnes.fr/Meetings/sciass.htm</a>
	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>
	August 6-20, 2012	<b>MSL Landing</b>
	September 29, 2012	<b>Start of Mars Northern Fall</b>
	October 14-19, 2012 Reno, NV, USA	<b>44<sup>th</sup> DPS Annual Meeting</b>
	November 4-7, 2012 Charlotte, NC, USA	<b>Geological Society of America Annual Meeting</b>
	December 10-14, 2012 San Francisco, CA, USA	<b>AGU Fall Meeting</b>
<b>2013</b>		
	March 2013	<b>44<sup>th</sup> Lunar and Planetary Science Conference</b>

	July 2013 Pasadena, CA, USA	<b>8<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Mars</b> California Institute of Technology
	October 27-30, 2013 Denver, CO, USA	<b>Geological Society of America Annual Meeting</b>
	November 18, 2013	<b>MAVEN Launch Period Opens</b>
	December 9-13, 2013 San Francisco, CA, USA	<b>AGU Fall Meeting</b>
<i>2014</i>		
	March 2014	<b>45<sup>th</sup> Lunar and Planetary Science Conference</b>
	October 19-22, 2014 Vancouver, British Columbia, CANADA	<b>Geological Society of America Annual Meeting</b>
	December 15-19, 2014 San Francisco, CA, USA	<b>AGU Fall Meeting</b>
<i>2015</i>		
	March 2015	<b>46<sup>th</sup> Lunar and Planetary Science Conference</b>
	November 1-4, 2015 Baltimore, MD, USA	<b>Geological Society of America Annual Meeting</b>

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

Good Friday	4/22/2011	4/6/2012	3/29/2013	4/18/2014	4/3/2015
Rosh Hashanah	9/29/2011	9/17/2012	9/5/2013	9/25/2014	9/14/2015
Yom Kippur	10/8/2011	9/26/2012	9/14/2013	10/4/2014	9/23/2015
(Note that Jewish holidays start at sundown the previous evening).					
Thanksgiving Day, U.S.	11/24/2011	11/22/2012	11/28/2013	11/27/2014	11/26/2015
Thanksgiving Day, Canada	10/10/2011	10/8/2012	10/14/2013	10/13/2014	10/12/2015

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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>.