

Mars Exploration Science Monthly Newsletter

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

Issue: September 2011

Next MEPAG meeting February 27-28, 2012, Washington, DC area

Mars Science News

Official Response to Planetary Science Decadal Survey

NASA's point-by-point response to the recommendations contained in "Vision and Voyages for Planetary Science in the Decade 2013-2022" is now available at:

http://sites.nationalacademies.org/SSB/CurrentProjects/ssb_052412

1st Landing Site Workshop for Proposed Mars Sample Return Mission

SAVE THE DATE - This meeting is tentatively scheduled for February 29 to March 2, 2012 (immediately following the MEPAG meeting) in the Washington, DC area.

Conference on Life Detection in Extraterrestrial Samples

This meeting will be held February 13-15, 2012, at the Scripps Institution of Oceanography, San Diego, California. See: <http://www.lpi.usra.edu/meetings/lifedetection2012/>

Near-term Due Dates (next three months)

Due	Project
9/12	Geological Society of America Annual Meeting early registration deadline
9/12	Lunar Exploration Analysis Group abstracts deadline
9/14	2011 PERC Planetary Geology Field Symposium registration and abstract deadline
9/19	Second Moscow Solar System Symposium registration deadline
9/24	First Int'l Planetary Caves Workshop professionals registration deadline
9/26	Workshop on Early Solar System Impact Bombardment II indication of interest deadline
10/11	First Int'l Planetary Caves Workshop students registration deadline
10/22	Lunar Exploration Analysis Group professionals online registration deadline
10/25	Workshop on Formation of the First Solids in the Solar System registration deadline
11/9	Lunar Exploration Analysis Group students online registration deadline
11/10	Conference on Life Detection in Extraterrestrial Samples abstracts deadline
11/28	2012 IEEE Aerospace Conference registration deadline
12/2	Mars Recent Climate Change Workshop extended abstract deadline

Public Invitation for Potential Members to Serve on NASA Federal Advisory Committees

NASA announces an invitation for the public to nominate individuals and also submit self-nominations for consideration as potential members of NASA's Federal advisory committees. Deadline: September 20, 2011. Nominations and self-nominations from interested individuals must be sent to NASA in letter form, be signed, and must include the name of the specific NASA Federal advisory committee of interest for consideration. Such letters must be accompanied by the following additional information: (1) Resume and/or curriculum vitae; (2) Professional biography (one page maximum).

Letters may be submitted electronically, in hard-copy, or both.
Send all letters and accompanying information to:

Ms. Susan Burch
Advisory Committee Management Division
Office of International and Interagency Relations
NASA Headquarters
Washington, DC 20546
or electronically to: susan.burch@nasa.gov

NASA's currently chartered Federal advisory committees include:

NASA Advisory Council
Aerospace Safety Advisory Panel
International Space Station (ISS) Advisory Committee
International Space Station (ISS) National Laboratory Advisory Committee
National Space-Based Positioning, Navigation and Timing (PNT) Advisory Board

To view charters for each of the above-listed NASA Federal advisory committees, and for additional information, please visit: <http://oijr.hq.nasa.gov/acmd.html> or contact:

Ms. Susan Burch 202-358-0550 susan.burch@nasa.gov

Upcoming Conferences and Workshops

Type	Date & Location	Event Information
<i>Third Quarter, 2011</i>		
	September 7, 2011	NASA Lunar Science Institute: Lunar Swirls Virtual Workshop Participation only requires an internet web browser. The schedule and connection information may be viewed at: http://lunarscience.nasa.gov/events/lunar-swirls-workshop-without-walls
	September 13, 2011	Start of Mars Northern Spring
	September 12-16, 2011 Fairbanks, AK, USA	Fifth International Conference on Mars Polar Science and Exploration http://www.lpi.usra.edu/meetings/polar2011/
	September 13-15, 2011 Monrovia, CA, USA	Navigation and Ancillary Information Facility (NAIF) Will conduct a SPICE observation geometry training class http://naif.jpl.nasa.gov/naif/announcement_SPICE-2011

	September 14-16, 2011 Flagstaff, AZ, USA	2nd Planetary Crater Consortium Meeting Location: U.S. Geological Survey http://www.planetarycraterconsortium.nau.edu/PCCMeeting.htm
	September 21-23, 2011 Barcelona, SPAIN	COST CM-0805 Nitrogen in Planetary Systems: The Early Evolution of the Atmospheres of Terrestrial Planets: The Role of N₂ http://ulisse.busoc.be/cost/barcelona-meeting.php
	September 25-October 1, 2011 Barringer Meteorite Crater, AZ, USA	Meteor Crater Field Camp Field Training and Research Program at Meteor Crater http://www.lpi.usra.edu/nlsi/mcFieldCamp/?view=program
<i>Fourth Quarter, 2011</i>		
	Update October 3-7, 2011 Nantes, FRANCE	EPSC-DPS 2011 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 http://meetings.copernicus.org/epsc-dps2011/ IAU Party on Wednesday, October 5. Learn about and discuss the role of the IAU in the area of (exo)planetary sciences. Applications forms due December 1, 2011. http://bit.ly/IAU-Party
	October 3-7, 2011 Capetown, SOUTH AFRICA	62nd International Astronautical Congress 2011 http://iac2011.com
	October 9-12, 2011 Minneapolis, MN, USA	Geological Society of America Annual Meeting Early registration deadline September 12, 2011 http://www.geosociety.org/meetings/
	October 10-14, 2011 Moscow, RUSSIA	Second Moscow Solar System Symposium Registration deadline September 19, 2011 http://ms2011.cosmos.ru/
	October 25-26, 2011 Laurel, MD, USA	Hands-On ISIS Workshop A two-day introductory workshop on the Integrated Software for Imager and Spectrometers (ISIS). Prerequisites: Basic Unix command line knowledge and a Mac, Windows, or Unix laptop with wireless 802.11g/n Class limit: 20 slots There is no fee for the workshop; however, all travel and lodging costs are the responsibility of the attendee. Registration: Please send an email to ssides@usgs.gov with a subject line of "ISIS Workshop at JHU/APL". Attendees will be accepted on a first come first serve basis.
	October 25-28, 2011 Carlsbad, New Mexico, USA	First International Planetary Caves Workshop: Implications for Astrobiology, Climate, Detection, and Exploration Registration deadline for professionals September 24, 2011; for students October 11, 2011 http://www.lpi.usra.edu/meetings/caves2011/
	November 2-4, 2011 Darmstadt, GERMANY	Mars Express Science Working Team (SWT) Meeting Celebrates Mars Express 10,000 orbits Contact Olivier Witasse (owitasse@rssd.esa.int)
	Update November 5-6, 2011 Kitakyushu City, JAPAN	2011 PERC Planetary Geology Field Symposium Also, field trip to volcanic zone in central Kyushu island November 7-9. Registration and abstract submission deadline is September 14, 2011. http://www.perc.it-chiba.ac.jp/meetings/pgfs2011/

	Update November 7-9, 2011 Houston, TX, USA	Lunar Exploration Analysis Group (LEAG 2011) Abstracts deadline September 12, 2011 Online registration deadline for professionals October 22, 2011; for students November 9, 2011 http://www.lpi.usra.edu/meetings/leag2011/
	November 7-9, 2011 Kauai, HI, USA	Workshop on Formation of the First Solids in the Solar System Registration deadline October 25, 2011 http://www.lpi.usra.edu/meetings/solids2011/
	November 25- December 18, 2011	MSL Launch Period
	December 5-9, 2011 San Francisco, CA, USA	AGU Fall Meeting Session P03: Active Mars Surface Processes and the Role of Volatiles Session P05: Coordinated Mineralogy and Morphology Studies of Martian Aqueous Deposits Session P12: Hydrothermal Mars – Analogues and Observations Session P18: Mars System Science: Integrating Martian Planetary Processes from the Subsurface to the Surface Session P20: Nanocrystalline Materials on Earth and Mars Session P22: Phyllosilicate Formation on Mars – Connecting Experimental and Theoretical Studies with Planetary Observations Session P30: Preparing for the Science of Mars Sample Return Session SA06: Ionospheres of Unmagnetized Planets – Venus, Mars, and Titan http://www.agu.org/meetings
2012		
	February 1-3, 2012 Houston, TX, USA	Workshop on the Early Solar System Impact Bombardment II Indication of Interest deadline September 26, 2011 http://www.lpi.usra.edu/meetings/bombardment2012/
	February 13-15, 2012 San Diego, CA, USA	Conference on Life Detection in Extraterrestrial Samples Abstract deadline November 10, 2011 http://www.lpi.usra.edu/meetings/lifedetection2012/
	February 27-28, 2012 Washington, DC, USA	MEPAG #25
 	February 29-March 2, 2012 Washington, DC, USA	Mars 2018 Landing Site Workshop
	Update March 3-10, 2012 Big Sky, MT, USA	2012 IEEE Aerospace Conference Big Sky Resort Registration deadline November 28, 2011 http://www.aeroconf.org
	Update March 19-23, 2012 The Woodlands, TX, USA	43rd Lunar and Planetary Science Conference Indication of Interest forms due November 11, 2011 Abstracts deadline January 10, 2012 http://www.lpi.usra.edu/meetings/lpsc2012
	March 30, 2012	Start of Mars Northern Summer
	April 15-18, 2012 Pasadena, CA, USA	ASCE Earth and Space 2012 There will be 8 symposiums, including Exploration and Utilization of Extraterrestrial Bodies and 5 th NASA/ASCE Workshop on Granular Materials in Space Exploration. http://content.asce.org/conferences/earthspace2012/index.html

	May 21-25, 2012 Carson City, NV, USA	Third International Conference on Early Mars: Geologic and Hydrologic Evolution, Physical and Chemical Environments, and the Implications for Life
	Update May 22-24, 2012 Moffett Field, CA, USA	Mars Recent Climate Change Workshop NASA Ames Research Center Extended abstract submission deadline December 2, 2011 http://spacescience.arc.nasa.gov/mars-climate-workshop-2011/
	June 12-15, 2012 Flagstaff, AZ, USA	Third International Planetary Dunes Workshop http://www.lpi.usra.edu/meetings/dunes2012/
	Update June 16-22, 2012 Toulouse, FRANCE	9th International Planetary Probe Workshop (IPPW-9) Short course – June 16-17, 2012 Workshop – June 18-22, 2012 http://www.planetaryprobe.eu/
	July 14-22, 2012 Mysore, INDIA	COSPAR 2012 Scientific Assembly Abstracts deadline – mid-February 2012 http://cosparhq.cnes.fr/Meetings/sciass.htm
	July 23-27, 2012 Pasadena, CA, USA	2012 Sagan Summer Workshop: Working with Exoplanet Light Curves http://mexsci.caltech.edu/workshop/2012/
	August 2012 Cairns, Queensland AUSTRALIA	75th Annual Meeting of the Meteoritical Society Contact: Trevor Ireland http://www.meteoriticalsociety.org/simple_template.cfm?code=news_meetings
	August 2012 Brisbane, AUSTRALIA	The 34th International Geological Congress http://www.33igc.org/
	August 6-20, 2012	MSL Landing
	September 29, 2012	Start of Mars Northern Fall
	October 14-19, 2012 Reno, NV, USA	44th DPS Annual Meeting
	November 4-7, 2012 Charlotte, NC, USA	Geological Society of America Annual Meeting
	December 10-14, 2012 San Francisco, CA, USA	AGU Fall Meeting
<i>2013</i>		
	March 2013	44th Lunar and Planetary Science Conference
	July 2013 Pasadena, CA, USA	8th International Conference on Mars California Institute of Technology
	October 27-30, 2013 Denver, CO, USA	Geological Society of America Annual Meeting
	November 18, 2013	MAVEN Launch Period Opens
	December 9-13, 2013 San Francisco, CA, USA	AGU Fall Meeting
<i>2014</i>		
	March 2014	45th Lunar and Planetary Science Conference

October 19-22, 2014 Vancouver, British Columbia, CANADA	Geological Society of America Annual Meeting
December 15-19, 2014 San Francisco, CA, USA	AGU Fall Meeting
<i>2015</i>	
March 2015	46th Lunar and Planetary Science Conference
November 1-4, 2015 Baltimore, MD, USA	Geological Society of America Annual Meeting

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, 818-393-0444.

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