

Newsletter 16-11

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CALL FOR LETTERS OF APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP ON NASA'S SCIENCE INSTRUMENT DEFINITION TEAM FOR GHAPS

NASA's Planetary Science Division (PSD) invites scientists and other qualified and interested individuals to apply for membership on the Gondola for High Altitude Planetary Science Project (GHAPS) Science Instrument Definition Team (SIDT) to help define instrument priorities for a stratospheric balloon gondola telescope that will serve as a community asset for future planetary science observations.

Applications should submit a one-page letter describing interest and qualifications, as well as a one-page Curriculum Vitae (both in pdf format). The letter should also contain a statement confirming the applicant's time availability during the one month time period to

participate on the SIDT, particularly if there are any major schedule constraints that may restrict engagement at critical times. The expected activities include the following:

- Teleconferences beginning approximately the week of May 23, 2016;
- A potential face-to-face meeting in June 2016 in the Washington, DC area (SIDT members provide their own travel support);
- Preparation and review of materials for the final report;
- Additional meetings/telecons as appropriate.

Deadline: May 6, 2016 (11:59 p.m. ET)

Submit letters to Rob Landis at rob.r.landis@nasa.gov [1]

Subject Line: GHAPS SIDT Application

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SUMMER SCHOOL FOR SOFTWARE SYSTEMS IN ASTRONOMY

The University of Hawaii'i at Hilo Physics and Astronomy Department offers the two week course (July 25 - August 5). The course covers software design and implementation of telescope and instrument control systems, observation planning tools, and software for analyzing and archiving astronomical data. A full course description and instructions for enrollment are given at:

<http://phys.uhh.hawaii.edu/Summer2016/summer2016.php> [2]

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OPAG MEETING - NEW STEERING COMMITTEE MEMBERS SOUGHT

The next OPAG meeting will be August 11-12 at Little America in Flagstaff, AZ. If you would like to make a presentation (including science nuggets), please contact OPAG chair Alfred McEwen (mcewen@lpl.arizona.edu [3]).

OPAG needs five new members for the steering committee because of rollofs from time expiration and other commitments. We will accept nominations (including self-nominations) consisting of one paragraph about how your involvement will benefit OPAG, plus your CV, sent to mcewen@lpl.arizona.edu [3]. The OPAG committee will vote on who to add, considering how to maintain balance between science disciplines, planetary objects, and institutions, to retain expertise in relevant technologies, and to promote diversity.

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**KEY DEADLINES APPROACHING FOR NEXT GENERATION
SUBORBITAL RESEARCHERS CONFERENCE (NSRC) 2016**

This year's Next Generation Suborbital Researchers Conference (NSRC-2016) will be held at the Omni Interlocken Resort, in Broomfield, Colorado, on June 2-4, 2016, with a welcome reception on June 1. Key deadlines for meeting participation are rapidly approaching, these are:

Poster Abstracts Submission: Deadline April 28th

Early-Bird (Discounted) Meeting Registration: Deadline April 29th

Hotel Room Reduced Rate Registration: Deadline May 1st

Topics discussed at NSRC-2016 will include flight provider status, regulatory issues, NASA's flight opportunities program, as well as applications including planetary science, astronomy and solar physics, atmospheric science, microgravity sciences, education, public outreach, life sciences, suborbital and commercial markets and policy, technology, and technology testing.

All contributed abstracts this year will be for posters to maximize the time needed to have practical provider and NASA/FAA discussions and networking, which will be focused on maturing payload ideas into actual suborbital flights. NSRC plans to accept ALL poster contributions that relate to next-gen suborbital research and education.

To learn more about the conference, to register, and to submit an abstract, visit:

<http://nsrc.swri.org> [4]

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Send submissions to:

Anne Verbiscer, DPS Secretary (dpssec@aas.org) [5]

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