

Newsletter 16-39

Issue 16-39, October 9, 2016

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TMT WORKSHOP AT DPS 48/EPSC 11

The Thirty-Meter-Telescope (TMT) International Observatory will organize a DPS workshop on Tuesday October 18 at noon (Room C102). The aim of this workshop is to provide the community of future TMT users with a status update on the search for an alternative construction site.

Lunch will be provided and to help with the head-count, please send an email to the workshop organizer (cdumas@tmt.org [1]) before October 13 to confirm your interest in participating in this workshop.

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NASA ASTROPHYSICS ASSETS TOWN HALLS I & II AT DPS 48/EPSC 11

I = Monday, 17 October at 12:30pm-2:00pm

II = Thursday, 20 October at 12:00pm-1:30pm

Location: Ballroom C (Pasadena Convention Center)

Agenda and Abstracts

NASA Planetary Science and Astrophysics Assets Town Hall I

Monday, 17 October at 12:30pm-2:00pm

Organizer(s): Doris Daou (Planetary Science Division, NASA HQ)

12:30 PM - 2:00 PM; Ballroom C (Pasadena Convention Center)

The K2 mission makes use of the Kepler spacecraft and expands on its groundbreaking discoveries. The fields observed by K2 are close to the ecliptic and hence are rich in Solar System objects including planets, asteroids and trans-Neptunian objects (TNOs). K2 has already performed observations of Neptune and its large moon Triton, Uranus, 68 Trojan and Hilda asteroids, 5 TNOs (including Pluto) and Comet C/2013 A1 (Siding Spring). Thousands of main-belt asteroids that fell into the pixel masks of stars have been serendipitously observed. Observations of moving bodies as bright as Jupiter and as faint as $V=23$ have proved successful. K2 has an ongoing funded Guest Observer program which has been successfully proposed to by members of the planetary science community. We will present K2's plans and capabilities for solar system science.

The Stratospheric Observatory for Infrared Astronomy makes observations at far-infrared wavelengths possible. A suite of cameras and spectrometers covers infrared wavelengths from 1 to 300 microns. A high-speed visible-wavelength photometer is also available to observe stellar occultations by Solar System objects. In particular, the range of wavelengths from 30-300



microns is nearly completely obscured from the ground, including our best mountaintop observatories. By flying in the stratosphere above 95% of atmospheric water vapor, access is opened to photometric, spectroscopic, and polarimetric observations of Solar System targets including small bodies through the major planets. We will brief the professional planetary science community on the capabilities of the observatory and its scientific instrumentation, the operation of the observatory, the proposal and planning process, and opportunities for involvement in the observatory itself.

The Spitzer Space Telescope is NASA's Infrared Great Observatory and will operate until mid-2019. The IRAC instrument provides unparalleled sensitivity at 3.6 and 4.5 microns that will only be superseded by JWST. For solar system observations Spitzer supports non-sidereal tracking rates of up to 1 arcsec per second, as well as the ability to do shadow observations for moving targets. We will present Spitzer's capabilities, future plans, and some science results from previous and ongoing planetary programs.

NASA Planetary Science and Astrophysics Assets Town Hall II

II = Thursday, 20 October at 12:00pm-1:30pm

Organizer(s): Doris Daou (Planetary Science Division, NASA HQ)

12:00 PM - 1:30 PM; Ballroom C (Pasadena Convention Center)

The two W.M. Keck Observatory 10m telescopes regularly observe the increasingly dynamic and diverse body of objects in our solar system. Every US member of the solar system community has the opportunity to apply for time on the Keck telescopes through NASA's call for proposals each March and September. We will present Keck's current and future instrument capabilities as well as recent solar system science highlights

from high spatial and spectral resolution imaging and spectroscopy. Although much information has been gained through spectroscopy of planets, comets, and Kuiper belt objects, many current solar system observers also take advantage of the adaptive optics systems on both Keck 1 and Keck 2 to determine rotation axes and pinpoint orbits with high astrometric precision. We will also provide information on how you can gain access to the NASA portion of Keck time, the only way that PIs from non Keck-member institutions can gain access, and highlight resources that are available for your use in the proposal planning process.

The NASA Infrared Telescope Facility (IRTF) is a dedicated observatory for mission support and planetary science research, with 50% of the telescope time allocated to solar system observations. Instruments currently available include SpeX (a low to moderate spectral resolution 1-5.3 micron spectrograph and imager), MORIS (a CCD camera used in conjunction with SpeX), iSHELL (a high spectral resolution 1.2-5.3 micron spectrograph and imager), and visitor spectrographs covering 5-24 microns. We are also upgrading MIRSI, our 8-26 micron camera, and it should be available during 2017B. The IRTF offers remote observing from any site with adequate internet connection, flexible scheduling (time slots as short as one hour), and daytime observing.

The Infrared Science Archive (IRSA) is the repository for science products from NASA's infrared and submillimeter missions, including many large-area and all-sky surveys. IRSA's scientist will describe our tools and datasets of interest to the DPS community, including: how to get moving object observations out of the Spitzer and WISE archives, the WISE Co-Adder

(which can sum up (NEO)WISE observations of moving targets), and the moving object "Pre-discovery" tool.

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AAS ORAL HISTORY PROJECT AT THE UPCOMING DPS MEETING IN PASADENA

As part of the ongoing AAS Oral History Project, we are soliciting planetary scientists to be interviewed at the DPS meeting in Pasadena, CA. We are looking for DPS members from all stages of career from undergraduate to emeritus and everything in between. Each interview takes about two hours and will become part of an oral history archive in partnership with the AIP Niels Bohr Library Oral History Archive.

Of particular interest to the interviewers are:

- Those involved with astronomy/planetary science education
- Members of "astronomy families," such as dual-career couples, single parents, and astronomers with a parent or child who is also an astronomer (The interviewers would like to speak with the parent or child, too, if possible.)
- Scientists who work in team collaborations
- Instrumentation designers and builders
- Scientists working with big data
- Researchers using small telescopes

Please sign up now at:

<http://tinyurl.com/OralDPS2016> [2]

or by emailing Sanlyn Buxner (buxner@psi.edu [3]).

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THE THIRD WORKSHOP ON EXTREMELY PRECISE RADIAL VELOCITIES (EPRV III)

Please save the date for the Third Workshop on Extremely Precise Radial Velocities (EPRV III), at the Pennsylvania State University, University Park, PA, USA, during the week of August 14-17, 2017.

This workshop is for teams around the world to share techniques for advancing precise radial velocity work towards 10 cm/s precision in coming years. Building on the success of the first two workshops at Penn State in 2010 and Yale in 2015, the focus on this workshop will be on the performance of the next generation of precise Doppler instruments, including hardware, statistical techniques for signal extraction and interpretation, and stellar jitter modeling and mitigation.

Please send questions or inquiries to Dr. Jason Wright at jtw13@psu.edu [4].

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JOBS, POSITIONS, OPPORTUNITIES

A) JUNO-SUPPORTING POSTDOC POSITION

The California Institute of Technology (Caltech), Postdoctoral Scholars Program at the Jet Propulsion Laboratory (JPL) invites applications for a postdoctoral research position in JPL's Planetary Science Section.

The research will involve coordination of Earth-based supporting observations for the Juno mission and Juno observations themselves.

Dr. Glenn Orton, in JPL's Planetary and Exoplanetary Atmospheres Group, will serve as JPL postdoctoral advisor to the selected candidate. The appointee will carry out research in collaboration with the JPL advisor, resulting in publications in the open literature.

Candidates should have a recent PhD in planetary science with a strong background in atmospheres. Experience in radiative transfer and spacecraft observations is highly desirable. Candidates who have received their PhD within the past five years since the date of their application are eligible. Postdoctoral Scholar positions are awarded for a minimum of one-year period and may be renewed up to a maximum of three years.

Please send a letter describing your research interests, a curriculum vitae, a list of three references (with telephone numbers, postal and email address) and arrange the reference letters to be sent to:

Name: Glenn Orton
Address: Jet Propulsion Laboratory
4800 Oak Grove Drive, MS 183-501, Pasadena, CA 91109
Telephone: 818-354-2460
Fax: 818-393-5555
E-Mail: glenn.orton@jpl.nasa.gov [5]

Caltech and JPL are equal opportunity/affirmative action employers.

Women, minorities, veterans, and disabled persons are encouraged to apply.

<http://postdocs.jpl.nasa.gov/researchapplicants/jobpostings/index.cfm?FuseAction=ShowJobPosting&JobPostingID=693> [6]

B) 3-YEAR POSTDOCTORAL POSITION

Institut d'Astrophysique Spatiale, Universite Paris-Sud
Orsay, France

<https://dps.aas.org/content/3-year-postdoctoral-position> [7]

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Send submissions to:

Anne Verbiscer, DPS Secretary (dpssec@aaas.org) [8]

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Links

- [1] <mailto:cdumas@tmt.org>
[2] <http://tinyurl.com/OralDPS2016>
[3] <mailto:buxner@psi.edu>
[4] <mailto:jtw13@psu.edu>
[5] <mailto:glenn.orton@jpl.nasa.gov>
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