MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR: HAPPY NEW YEAR, 2017

I hope everyone had a chance to have some down-time with family and friends and perhaps also work hard and focus on something scientific over the holidays. I'm optimistic that we will continue to have the opportunity to pursue exploration of our Solar System and other planetary systems in the year to come, and here's why.

In October, Thomas Zurbuchen was appointed Associate Administrator for NASA's Science Mission Directorate. He comes with broad scientific and organizational leadership experience and I'm encouraged by his leadership already. Last week, NASA announced that two missions were selected to proceed into development in the Discovery Program and a few weeks before that the Announcement of Opportunity for the New Frontiers Program was released. That and a strong Research and Analysis Program provide
many opportunities for scientific investigations in our fields of research.

The NASA transition team has landed and is actively preparing for the new administration. Full speed ahead!

Next week we'll open a lottery for 30 free subscriptions to Icarus, the Journal of Solar System research published by Elsevier. At the link, you'll enter your name and a few sentences stating why you want the subscription and that you don't have access to an institutional subscription.

The DPS Committee is in the process of analyzing the exit poll from the Pasadena meeting, for the purpose of improving the meeting to be held in Provo Utah, October 15-20, 2017. Stand-by for that analysis, and thanks to the 353 of the >1400 attendees who responded.

Lucy McFadden
DPS Chair

16th SMALL BODIES ASSESSMENT GROUP (SBAG) MEETING
JANUARY 11-13 IN TUCSON

The 16th meeting of the Small Bodies Assessment Group (SBAG) will be this coming week, Jan. 11-13, in Tucson.

The meeting will be available live via Adobe Connect at

https://ac.arc.nasa.gov/sbag16/ [1]

The telecon number is 800-857-7273, participant passcode: 9348469
The agenda can be found at the link below:


I hope to see you, either in person or virtually this week.

Tim Swindle
SBAG Chair

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THE DPS COMMITTEE REMINDS YOU TO VOTE IN THE AAS ELECTIONS

Don't forget to vote in AAS elections. The DPS is the largest AAS division.

Perry Gerakines and Doris Daou are running for the nominating committee that selects candidates for officers and councilors and Karen Meech and Terry Oswalt are running for Councilor.

Balloting closes at 11:59 pm EST on 1 February 2017

[https://vote.aas.org/ballot/ballot_view/34](https://vote.aas.org/ballot/ballot_view/34)  [3]

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2017 EXOPLANET SUMMER PROGRAM: JUNE 26 - JULY 21, 2017


The Other Worlds Laboratory (OWL) at the University of California, Santa Cruz (UCSC) announces the 2017 Exoplanet Summer Program (ESP). Within the program we wish to foster new and existing research collaborations by outstanding visitors, with stays of 1 to 4 weeks.

**Program:** The purpose of the program is to allow visitors to generate new
ideas, nurture existing research projects and collaborations, and foster new ones.

There is no theme or focus area - in this fast-moving exoplanets field we want the participants to drive the discussion and work on areas they feel is most pressing and exciting. We imagine an ESP program that is modest in terms of planned activities, besides a daily coffee and seminar with active discussion. Participants can expect access to shared offices on campus, discussion common areas, and of course immersion in Santa Cruz’s natural beauty.

**Eligibility:** Faculty, researchers, postdocs, and graduate students at any level are invited to apply. Funding is limited, so participant travel support will range from partial to full.

**Applications:** Please write 1-2 pages that cover the following areas: The science that you would like to accomplish while in Santa Cruz, the proposed dates of your stay, and the science connections that you see with faculty, researchers, or students within the OWL. Please also include a CV of up to 2 pages. The current roster of planetary investigators and research at UC Santa Cruz can be found at [http://owl.ucsc.edu](http://owl.ucsc.edu) [5]. We particularly welcome joint applications by small groups wishing to work together on projects. E-mail applications to OWL Director Jonathan Fortney at [jfortney@ucsc.edu](mailto:jfortney@ucsc.edu) [6].

**Information:** We will work with program visitors to aid in finding suitable housing accommodations either on or off campus. Some on campus shared-apartment-style housing will be available. Keep in mind that Santa Cruz is a popular summer destination. Please contact Jonathan Fortney by e-mail or phone, 831-459-1312, with additional questions about the ESP program.
Deadlines: Applications that are received by January 15th, February 15th, and March 15th, 2017, will be reviewed on a rolling basis.

NASA NEW FRONTIERS 4 AO PRE-PROPOSAL CONFERENCE

Potential proposers to the New Frontiers 4 AO soliciting Principal Investigator (PI)-led science investigations utilizing a complete spaceflight mission are encouraged to attend the pre-proposal conference on Friday, January 20, 2017, from 11:00 am to approximately 3:30 pm eastern time (Washington, DC). Information will be presented by NASA officials, and participants will have the opportunity to pose questions regarding the opportunity. The conference will be virtual and participation will be facilitated via Webex and teleconference phone line. Travel to the pre-proposal conference is not necessary and attendance in person is not supported. The agenda and instructions will be posted at the NF4 acquisition website (https://newfrontiers.larc.nasa.gov) under the Pre-Proposal tab. Attendance is open to all and no registration is required.

UPCOMING MEETINGS

A) ASTROBIOLOGY SCIENCE CONFERENCE SESSION ON THE MODERN MARS HABITABILITY

http://www.hou.usra.edu/meetings/abscicon2017

Abstracts due January 18, 2017

Meeting dates April 24-28, Mesa AZ

Modern Mars Habitability: Recent discoveries on Mars, including:

Recurring Slope Lineae, ground ice, and active gully formation, have been interpreted as indications for the transient presence of water. The potential for liquid water on Mars has profound implications for the habitability of the modern Mars environment.

This session solicits papers that examine the evidence for habitable environments on Mars, present results about life in analogs to these
environments, discuss hypotheses to explain the active processes, evaluate issues for planetary protection, and explore the implications for future explorations of Mars.

Organizers: Carol Stoker, NASA Ames Research Center, and Alfred McEwen, LPL, University of Arizona

B) TITAN THROUGH TIME 4
NASA GSFC, April 3-5th 2017

We are pleased to announce that the 4th workshop on “Titan Through Time: Titan’s Formation, Evolution and Fate” will be held at NASA Goddard Space Flight Center, April 3-5th 2017. As in previous years, the 2 1/2 day workshop will feature a mixture of invited review talks, as well as contributed talks and posters. The timing of this workshop is especially apt, coinciding with the last year of the Cassini mission, and an era when new missions to Titan are envisaged for the “Ocean Worlds” initiative of the New Frontiers program.

Invited speakers and meeting details can be found at: www.regonline.com/titaniv [9]

The deadline for abstracts is February 15th 2017. Limited student travel funding is available: see website for details.

Hoping to see many of you in Goddard in April,
Conor Nixon
Chair SOC

On behalf the Science Organizing Committee.

C) CALL FOR PAPERS: SESSION PS06 AT AOGS 2017

Please consider submitting an abstract in the following session at the upcoming AOGS meeting in Singapore, 6-11 August 2017.
PS06: Icy Worlds: Moons, Dwarf Planets, Rings and Exoplanets

This session will be devoted to outer planet satellites, rings, icy dwarf planets and water-rich exoplanets. The session will include solicited, contributed, and poster presentations addressing observational, laboratory, and theoretical studies relevant to past, ongoing, and future missions. Relevant topics include:
1. interior structure, composition and thermal evolution,
2. surface geology and composition,
3. orbital dynamics and interactions,
4. structure, dynamics and physical properties of planetary rings,
5. habitable potential for the water worlds.

The abstract submission deadline is 15 February 2017.

The Conveners:

Dr. Jun Kimura (Osaka University, Japan)
Dr. Mathieu Choukroun (California Institute of Technology, United States)
Dr. Frank Sohl (German Aerospace Center (DLR), Germany)
Dr. Steven Vance (Jet Propulsion Laboratory, United States)
Dr. Athena Coustenis (Paris Observatory, France)

D) CALL FOR PAPERS: SESSION PS15 AT AOGS 2017

The abstract submission deadline is 15 February 2017.
PS15: Volcanism and Tectonism Across the Solar System

The surfaces of the terrestrial planets and their satellites have been largely shaped through volcanic and tectonic processes. Extreme conditions on outer solar system bodies, such as the Jovian and Saturnian satellites, result in different types of volcanism and tectonism. Fracturing and faulting processes mainly affect minor bodies such as asteroids and small moons, where volcanism and tectonism have not played an important role. We invite contributions that cover a wide range of topics including geomorphology and composition of volcanic deposits, edifices, and plumes, volcano-induced deformation and edifice growth and collapse to tectonic structures, faulting and fracturing processes, crustal stress and strain analysis, cryovolcanism, and any study related to planetary endogenic processes. Furthermore, studies that relay interactions between planetary interiors, surfaces, and atmospheres are welcomed. Comparative studies of volcanic or tectonic systems on Earth with a strong remote sensing component are encouraged.

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Hope to see you there!

The Conveners:

Dr. Anezina Solomonidou (Jet Propulsion Laboratory, Caltech, United States)
Dr. Thomas Platz (Max-Planck Institute for Solar System Research, Germany)
Dr. Florian M. Schwandner (Jet Propulsion Laboratory, Caltech, United States)
This is a reminder that the next European Geosciences Union (EGU) conference will be held in Vienna on 23-28 April, 2017, with an impending abstract deadline of January 11, 2017. There are several planetary-science sessions in categories that include "Solar System Exploration and Techniques", "Small Bodies and Dust", "Terrestrial Planets", plus "Outer Planets, Icy Satellites and Rings". The latter will include both Cassini and Earth-based results.

The conveners wish to call your particular attention to a special session this year, PS3.2, covering results from the Juno mission and supporting observations of Jupiter from space-based and ground-based facilities.

**PS3.2: Initial Results from Juno's Exploration of Jupiter and the Earth-based Collaborative Campaign**

Convener: Scott Bolton; Co-Conveners: Paul Hartogh, Tristan Guillot, Glenn Orton, John Connerney, Jean-Claude Gerard

Abstract submission is made through the following site:


Abstract submission deadline: January 11, 2017

Send submissions to:

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

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