IN MEMORIAM: AKIVA BAR-NUN (1940-2017)

Akiva Bar-Nun, a leader in the field of cosmochemistry, died in Jerusalem, Israel on January 25, 2017, after a long illness. Akiva was born in 1940. After completing his doctorate in shock wave chemistry at the Hebrew University in Jerusalem in 1968, he did his postdoc at Cornell University, where he worked with the late Carl Sagan. This led to a lifelong interest in the origins of life. His formal entrance into the field of planetary science came with a 1975 paper predicting that thunderstorm shocks were the source of short-lived hydrocarbons in Jupiter's atmosphere. This prediction was eventually confirmed by spacecraft observations. In 1976, after six years as lecturer at the Hebrew University, Akiva joined the faculty at Tel Aviv University. There he continued to explore the importance of shockwaves for the origins of life. In addition, he investigated the photochemical production of planetary
aerosols. Later on, he set up his unique and world-famous laboratory, where he conducted pioneering studies of ices under conditions typical of comets. His investigations on trapping of volatiles by cometary ices and their subsequent release upon warming of the ice, revolutionized cometary research. Akiva's expertise made him a valuable contributor to several international space projects, including the HASI experiment on the HUYGENS spacecraft that landed on Titan, as well as the ALICE and ROSINA instruments on the ROSETTA spacecraft. Akiva served as the Director General of the Israel Space Agency between 1989-1993, and then for another two years as its Vice Chairman. He was an excellent teacher and mentor, who inspired numerous students, and he played an important role in advancing the public understanding of science. Generations of young students have delighted in his book on the Solar System (New Worlds, published in 1984, in Hebrew). Akiva was also a good friend. He will be sorely missed.

Morris Podolak and Dina Prialnik

Submitted by Jonathan Lunine

JWST EARLY RELEASE SCIENCE PROGRAM: PRE-PROPOSAL WEBINAR

Pre-proposal Webinar: Feb. 7, 11a - 1p Eastern Time (US)
Notice of Intent Deadline: Mar 3, 2017 (Mandatory)
Call for Proposals Finalized: May 2017
Proposal Deadline: Aug 18, 2017

The Space Telescope Science Institute (STScI) is pleased to announce the Call for Proposals for the James Webb Space Telescope (JWST) Director’s
Discretionary Early Release Science (DD ERS) program. The initial DD ERS Call for Proposals is available at: http://j.tinyurl.com/hjt3u7e [1]. The DD ERS program is intended to support planning of Cycle 2 JWST proposals by providing example data sets to the community within 6 months of the start of science operations (c. May 1, 2019). The JWST project encourages submission of DD ERS proposals for all science themes, including Solar System science. Proposals should address a broad range of applications and observing modes relevant to their relevant theme. Participation in the program is open to all categories of organizations, both domestic and foreign, including educational institutions, profit and nonprofit organizations, NASA Centers, and other Government agencies.

STScI will host an initial webinar to help inform the community about the goals and requirements of the DD ERS program and JWST capabilities, and encourage submission of proposals. Webex connection information for the webinar can be found here:


Additional webinars will be scheduled as needed depending on interest expressed at the first.

We would also like to recommend a number of other events including ETC demonstration and other lectures listed at the JWST events page: https://jwst.stsci.edu/events [3]

John Stansberry JWST -- NIRCam Operations, Solar System Lead
Space Telescope Science Institute
410-338-2442
MPC USER’S ADVISORY GROUP

The Minor Planet Center (MPC) has become a functional sub-node of the Small Bodies Node (SBN) of NASA's Planetary Data System (PDS). As part of that transition, we are creating a User's Advisory Group for the MPC. We would like to include both data providers to the MPC and users of the data produced by MPC. We would also consider an orbital dynamicist who compares his/her results with those of the MPC. At this point we would like to solicit both volunteers and nominees from the community. We anticipate an annual face-to-face meeting at the MPC (in Cambridge, MA) and intervening electronic meetings perhaps 2 or 3 times per year. International, i.e., non-US, members are welcome but we can not use NASA funds for the travel of international members. Please contact both Matt Holman, Director of the MPC, and Mike A'Hearn, PI of the PDS Small Bodies Node, with a very brief statement of your, or your nominee's, relevance to the committee. See the web pages for the MPC:

http://www.minorplanetcenter.net/iau/mpc.html [4]

and/or the SBN:


SUMMER INTERNSHIPS AT JOHNS HOPKINS APPLIED PHYSICS LAB (APL)

APL is looking for the next generation of explorers! The 2017 APL NASA Intern Program provides unique opportunities for university students to work on NASA missions or other space-related research projects. The internship program runs 10 weeks in the summer and applications are due March 26; however, selections are made on a continuous basis, so interested students should apply as early as possible. More information is available at:


2017 AGU FELLOWS NOMINATIONS OPEN

The 2017 AGU Fellows nominations is now open. The deadline for submission is set for 15 March 2017. The timeline for the 2017 nominations and committee work is posted at:

http://honors.agu.org/fellows/ [7]
Some of these dates may change as we move along the process.

Sarah T. Stewart  
President, AGU Planetary Section

6---------6---------6---------6---------6---------6---------6---------6---------6---------6

UPCOMING MEETINGS

A) JPGU-AGU 2017 SESSION P-PS02: SMALL BODIES - EXPLORATION OF THE ASTEROID BELT AND THE SOLAR SYSTEM AT LARGE

May 20-25, Makuhari Messe

http://www.jpgu.org/meeting_e2017/ [8]

Abstract deadline: February 16, 2017 05:00PM JST (UTC/GMT +9hours)

Small Solar System bodies, including asteroids, comets, satellites, and interplanetary dust particles have undergone a recent scientific renaissance with new observations that have greatly expanded our understanding of the origin and evolution of our Solar System. This new information comes from telescopic data, and in-situ observations with spacecraft carrying high resolution instruments sensing IR, visible, UV, X-rays, gamma ray photons and neutrons. In addition, Hayabusa 1 has returned samples to earth and Hayabusa 2 and OSIRIS-REx have been sent to return more. In this session, all contributions on small solar system bodies are welcome. We welcome all contributions on recent advances in the study of asteroids whether obtained by rendezvous spacecraft, sample return, analysis of meteorites, remote sensing and laboratory research on analogous materials.

Conveners:

Eleonora Ammannito (UCLA),  
Taishi Nakamoto (Tokyo Institute of Technology),  
Masanao Abe (Institute of Space and Astronautical Science, Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency),  
Christopher T. Russell (UCLA),  
Sei-ichiro Watanabe, (Division of Earth and Planetary Sciences, Graduate School of Science, Nagoya University)

B) WOMEN IN ASTRONOMY IV: THE MANY FACES OF WOMEN ASTRONOMERS

June 9-11, 2017  
Austin, TX
Women in Astronomy IV: The Many Faces of Women Astronomers, a conference sponsored by the National Radio Astronomy Observatory (NRAO) and the American Astronomical Society (AAS), with support from the National Science Foundation (NSF), will take place June 9 - 11, 2017, following the 2017 AAS Summer Meeting in Austin, Texas. Through extensive use of workshops, panels, and small group discussions, WiA IV will focus on issues that affect a broad spectrum of women in astronomy. It will address the challenges specific to women and what institutions can do to create welcoming, equitable workplaces. Workshops and breakout sessions will be structured with the aim of producing policy white papers, tool kits, and resource lists.

For more information, please visit the following link:

http://www.cvent.com/events/women-in-astronomy-iv-the-many-faces-of-women-
astronmers/event-summary-589214b84ab94f26ac269ad9823ef977.aspx

C) TITAN THROUGH TIME IV WORKSHOP

NASA Goddard Space Flight Center

April 3-5, 2017

Abstract Deadline: February 15


D) MICROSYMPOSIUM 58, SURFACE EXPLORATION AND SAMPLE RETURN:

A NEW ERA IN PLANETARY SCIENCES

The Woodlands, TX
March 18-19, 2017

Featuring updates on the Chinese Lunar and Planetary Exploration Program

Micro 58 is co-sponsored by Brown University, Vernadsky Institute, the Institute for Space Research (IKI) and the Brown-MIT NASA Solar System Exploration Virtual Institute (SSERVI-SEEED). The highly successful flyby of Pluto has completed the reconnaissance exploration phase of our Solar System during the last half-century. The emplacement of sophisticated international orbital spacecraft around seven Solar System planetary bodies has provided a first-order characterization of their surfaces and atmospheres. On the basis of these findings, we are now poised to define more clearly the major scientific goals for the next half-century, and to accomplish these goals utilizing robotic surface exploration and sample return, and human exploration of the Moon, Mars and other destinations. But what are these goals? Where are the most appropriate destinations for surface exploration and sample return missions? And how can different countries, agencies and commercial enterprises work together to optimize robotic exploration leading to human exploration?

Microsymposium 58 will address several of these questions as we chart exploration strategies for the coming decades. What are the major outstanding scientific questions for the Moon, Mars, Venus, Phobos/Deimos and asteroids? What are the optimum landing sites for robotic exploration, leading to sample return for these bodies? Where can human exploration optimize the scientific return? The workshop will be focused on 1) keynote presentations for identifying fundamental questions for each of these destinations, followed by 2) reports and discussion on current and future plans for landing and sample return sites on the Moon, Mars, Venus, Phobos/Deimos and asteroids. Invitations are extended to, and participation is expected from, representatives from Russia, China, ESA, India, Japan, the United States, Korea, and other space-faring nations and commercial enterprises.

The program will be a mix of invited and contributed papers and will convene on Saturday, March 18, 2017 (1 PM-6 PM) and Sunday, March 19, 2017 (8:30 AM-12 Noon).

The Microsymposium will emphasize an open discussion format and will be anchored by invited overviews, commentaries and posters. If you are interested in participating in Micro 58, please register [http://www.planetary.brown.edu/html_pages/micro58_reg.htm](http://www.planetary.brown.edu/html_pages/micro58_reg.htm) online.

Details and updates can be found at the Microsymposium 58 [http://www.planetary.brown.edu/html_pages/micro58.htm](http://www.planetary.brown.edu/html_pages/micro58.htm) site. Those wishing to attend the conference can register at any time, including up to the time of the conference, but advance notice helps us to plan refreshments and seating.

E) SHOCK METAMORPHISM WORKSHOP

2017 International Workshop on: Shock Metamorphism in Terrestrial and Extra-Terrestrial Rocks will be held June 26 - July 2 in Perth, Australia, including a field trip to the Wolfe Creek crater in Western Australia.

We invite researchers of all backgrounds and interests in studying shock effects in geologic media and impact-related processes in the solar system for this four-day multi-disciplinary workshop.

Early bird registration is now open and submissions close 1st May 2017.

More info:


JOBS, POSITIONS, OPPORTUNITIES

A) POSTDOCTORAL POSITION: INTERIOR MODELING OF ROCKY PLANETS AND SOLID EXOPLANETS


This vacancy at DLR Berlin is part of a new DFG Research Unit, focusing on the development of improved structural and thermal models of rocky planets and solid exoplanets in close collaboration with experimental and theoretical research groups studying matter under extreme conditions.
Send submissions to:

Anne Verbiscer, DPS Secretary (dpssec@aas.org [15])

To unsubscribe visit http://aas.org/unsubscribe [16] or email unsubscribe@aas.org [17].

To change your address email address@aas.org [18]

Footer

- Reports
- Photos
- History
- Bylaws
- Giving

Source URL: https://dps.aas.org/newsletters/17-06

Links
[3] https://jwst.stsci.edu/events
[15] mailto:dpssec@aas.org
[17] mailto:unsubscribe@aas.org
[18] mailto:address@aas.org