Newsletter 18-05

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+------------------------------------CONTENTS----------------------------------------+

1. WORKSHOP: CARBON IN THE SOLAR SYSTEM
2. PLANETARY SESSIONS AT THE GSA CORDILLERAN-ROCKY MOUNTAIN JOINT MEETING
3. ENVIRONMENTS OF TERRESTRIAL PLANETS UNDER THE YOUNG SUN: SEEDS OF BIOMOLECULES SYMPOSIUM
4. INVITATION TO SUBMIT ABSTRACT TO THE JAPAN GEOSCIENCE UNION (JPGU) MEETING
5. JOBS, POSITIONS, OPPORTUNITIES

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WORKSHOP: CARBON IN THE SOLAR SYSTEM

April 25-27, 2018 Denver, CO

https://carbon-workshop.arc.nasa.gov [1]

With recent results from the Pluto system, the Saturn system, Mercury, and nearly all points in between, the time is right to hold a workshop to discuss and synthesize these results to improve our understanding of the role of carbon in the Solar System, how it evolves and how to recognize it. The workshop will include invited and contributed talks on observational, lab and modeling work related to carbon and carbonaceous species on Solar System bodies. The workshop will emphasize discussion in addition to talks and posters, to encourage cross-communication within the community. This workshop is planned to be the first of two workshops, with the second held (on TBD dates in the future) to review and share work stemming...
from discussions at the first workshop (i.e. to address questions that come up at the first workshop). The workshop will be limited to 100 for in-person attendance; Webcast capabilities will be used to allow remote participation. Abstracts will be due March 6.

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PLANETARY SESSIONS AT THE GSA CORDILLERAN-ROCKY MOUNTAIN JOINT MEETING

The Cordilleran and Rocky Mountain sections of the Geological Society of America are having a joint meeting May 15-17, 2018, in Flagstaff, AZ. We invite contributions to the following planetary sessions at the meeting:

T21. Recent Advances in Planetary Geoscience. Cosponsored by GSA Geophysics Division; GSA Sedimentary Geology Division;

GSA Planetary Geology Division. Nadine Barlow, Northern Arizona Univ.; Jim Skinner, USGS; Mark Salvatore, Northern Arizona Univ.

We solicit contributions that discuss how the volume and diversity of recent data sets have significantly advanced our understanding of the geologic character and evolution of bodies in the Solar System. Topics can be narrowly or broadly scoped and can include results from surface- and satellite-based investigations and advanced analytical technologies.

T22. Earth as a Stepping Stone for Planetary Exploration. Cosponsored by GSA Geophysics Division; GSA Planetary Geology Division. Lauren Edgar, USGS; Christopher Edwards, Northern Arizona Univ.;

Jim Skinner, USGS; Kelsey Young, NASA.

Terrestrial research in the field and in the laboratory is necessary for advancing planetary exploration. We invite contributions including, but not limited to, planetary analog research, laboratory work to better understand planetary environments, recent developments in robotic and human exploration, traverse planning, and new field, laboratory, and remote sensing technologies.

Kristen Bennett, Northern Arizona Univ.; Christopher Edwards, Northern Arizona Univ.; Nadine Barlow, Northern Arizona Univ.; Will Grundy, Lowell Observatory.

Compositional interpretations critically augment geomorphological and/or sedimentological studies to yield a refined understanding of geologic context and surface processes. We solicit contributions from a broad range of surface- and satellite-based studies that discuss the results of these types of geochemical syntheses, including methods to reconcile discrepancies between data sets.

T24. Understanding Basin Environments and Evolution Beyond Earth. Cosponsored by GSA Geophysics Division; GSA Sedimentary Geology Division; GSA Planetary Geology Division. Jim Skinner, USGS; Lauren Edgar, USGS, Kristen Bennett, Northern Arizona Univ.; Chris Okubo, USGS.

Though topographic and structural basins exist beyond Earth, lack of direct access makes deciphering exposed units a challenge. We invite contributions that focus on the character, diversity, depositional style, and observational strategies that help resolve basin environments and evolution on Mars and other bodies beyond Earth using surface- and satellite-based data sets.

There also will be a full-day post-conference field trip on May 18 to planetary analog sites in northern Arizona:

4. The Holey Tour: Planetary Analog Sites Of Northern Arizona. Cosponsored by GSA Planetary Geology Division Fri., 18 May, 8 a.m. departure; 5 p.m. return. Cost: $75 (trip includes van transportation, entrance to Meteor Crater, water, lunch, and field trip guidebook). Organizers: Nadine G. Barlow, Northern Arizona University; Christopher Edwards, Northern Arizona University; Mark Salvatore, Northern Arizona University.

We will hike part-way along the Meteor Crater rim out to Barringer Point (the highest point on the rim), stopping along the way to discuss the history of the Crater, how it was used in the training of the Apollo astronauts, key geologic features, and the insights it provides into impact crater formation and evolution on other planetary bodies. Then head north to SP and Colton volcanic craters, stopping to eat lunch along the way. We will spend the afternoon exploring the volcanic flows and structures of these two young volcanoes and discuss how the San Francisco volcanic field has been used in astronaut training, and rover and space suit testing.

Abstract deadline is February 20, 2018. More information can be obtained at the meeting website: www.geosociety.org/GSA/Events/Section_Meetings/GSA/Sections/rm/2018mtg/home.aspx [2].
ENVIRONMENTS OF TERRESTRIAL PLANETS UNDER THE YOUNG SUN:
SEEDS OF BIOMOLECULES SYMPOSIUM

“Environments of Terrestrial Planets Under the Young Sun: Seeds of Biomolecules”

Symposium will be held on April 9-13, 2018, hosted by the Sellers Exoplanet Environments Collaboration at NASA Goddard Space Flight Center, Greenbelt, MD, USA.

This symposium is a major international interdisciplinary conference in the emerging area of astrobiology covering astrophysical, physico-chemical, atmospheric and geological aspects of environments of early terrestrial planets with a focus on the impacts of the young Sun’s space weather on the precursors of life.

The central objective of the Symposium is to unify and coordinate these efforts to understand, and characterize heliophysical, magnetospheric, ionospheric, climate and their interaction with geological environments on the early Earth, Mars and Venus and their impacts on the initiation of prebiotic chemistry.

The official web site for the symposium is available at https://science.gsfc.nasa.gov/600/seec/Events/Environments_of_Terrestrial_Planets_Under_the_Young_Sun.html [3]

Please register (at no cost) at the website.

The abstract submission will be open in 1 week.

INVITATION TO SUBMIT ABSTRACT TO THE JAPAN GEOSCIENCE UNION (JPGU) MEETING

At the Japanese Geoscience Union meeting near Tokyo, Japan, we will convene an international session titled: "Outer Solar System Exploration Today and Tomorrow " http://www.jpgu.org/meeting_2018/SessionList_ip/detail/P-PS01.html [4]

We invite abstracts that address a wide range of topics encompassing the giant
planets and their moons, including their origins, interiors, atmospheres, compositions, surface features, and electromagnetic fields. To advocate for current and future outer planets exploration (Cassini, Juno, New Horizons, JUICE, and beyond), we also call for discussions on future missions to explore giant planet systems, including how to develop better international cooperation. Discussion in this latter category will include progress in developing a solar sail mission concept for observing the Jupiter system and its trojan asteroids.

JpGU will be held on May 20 - 24 in Makuhari, Chiba. [5]

http://www.jpgu.org/meeting_e2018/index.php

Early Abstract deadline (discounted rate): February 5th, 2018
Regular Abstract Deadline: February 19th, 2018
Early Registration Deadline: May 8, 2018*

*Current AGU Members can register at the JpGU member rate.

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JOBS, POSITIONS, OPPORTUNITIES

A) TWO JOB OPENINGS AT NASA GODDARD SPACE FLIGHT CENTER

JOB OPENING 1: Planetary Scientist with expertise in exospheres at Goddard Space Flight Center

The Planetary Magnetospheres Laboratory of the Solar System Exploration Division (SSED) at NASA Goddard Space Flight Center (GSFC) located in Greenbelt, Maryland has a U.S. civil service position open for a Planetary Scientist, with expertise in exospheres, at the GS-13 (Junior) level. The Solar System Exploration Division conducts theoretical and experimental research to explore the solar system and understand the formation and evolution of planetary systems. For more information about the duties of this position and
requirements or to apply please see


More Information about the SSED can be found at

science.gsfc.nasa.gov/solarsystem  [7]. The job opening closes on 9 February.

Specific questions about the SSED and this position can be directed to

Michael.e.purucker@nasa.gov [8].

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JOB OPENING 2: Planetary Scientist with expertise in magnetometry at
Goddard Space Flight Center

The Planetary Magnetospheres Laboratory of the Solar System Exploration
Division (SSED) at NASA Goddard Space Flight Center (GSFC) located in
Greenbelt, Maryland has a civil service position open for a Magnetometry
Scientist, at either the Junior or mid-career levels. The Solar System
Exploration Division conducts theoretical and experimental research to explore
the solar system and understand the formation and evolution of planetary
systems. For more information about the duties of this position and requirements
or to apply please see:


and


We will be hiring a single individual, at either a junior or mid-career level,
to fill this position. More Information about the SSED can be found at

science.gsfc.nasa.gov/solarsystem  [7]. These job openings close on 5 February.

Specific questions about the SSED and this position can be directed to

Michael.e.purucker@nasa.gov [8]

Michael E. Purucker, Planetary Magnetospheres Lab Chief
B) POSTDOCTORAL SCHOLAR IN MARS ATMOSPHERIC STRUCTURE, DYNAMICS, AND AEROSOLS (CALTECH)

We invite applications for a postdoctoral research position in JPL's Planetary and Exoplanetary Atmospheres Group (Requisition ID 2018-9117). Dr. Armin Kleinboehl of JPL's Science Division will serve as postdoctoral advisor to the selected candidate. The appointee will carry out research in collaboration with the JPL advisor and the MCS team, resulting in publications in the open literature. The research will involve analysis and modeling of data collected by the Mars Climate Sounder (MCS) instrument on board the Mars Reconnaissance Orbiter (MRO) spacecraft.

Study topics may include the structure of the aphelion cloud belt and its relation to atmospheric dynamics, the distribution and properties of mesospheric clouds, and the distribution of water ice and CO2 ice in the polar regions.

Applicants should apply through the website:

and submit a curriculum vitae and a letter describing their research interests. Applicants must also arrange reference letters from three references to be sent to: armin.kleinboehl@jpl.nasa.gov [12]. Applications will be reviewed starting Feb. 16, 2018.

Send submissions to:

Anne Verbiscer, DPS Secretary (dpssec@aas.org [13])

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