

Newsletter 18-06

Issue 18-06, February 3, 2018

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CALL FOR DPS 2018 PRIZE NOMINATIONS

Deadline: April 1, 2018

Every year the DPS recognizes exceptional achievement in our field.

Please consider nominating a respected colleague for one of the annual

DPS prizes. The DPS sponsors five prizes:

The [Gerard P. Kuiper Prize](#) [1] honors outstanding contributions to the field of planetary science.

The [Harold C. Urey Prize](#) [2] recognizes outstanding achievement in planetary research by a young scientist.

The [Harold Masursky Award](#) [3] acknowledges outstanding service to planetary science and exploration.

The [Carl Sagan Medal](#) [4] recognizes and honors outstanding communication by an active planetary scientist to the general public.

The [Jonathan Eberhart Planetary Sciences Journalism Award](#) [5] recognizes and stimulates distinguished popular writing on planetary sciences.

DPS members and the planetary science community-at-large are encouraged to submit nominations for DPS prizes.

A complete nomination submitted by the deadline will be considered by the DPS Prize subcommittee for 3 years (i.e. for this year's award, next year's award, and the year after that), or for the duration of a candidate's eligibility, whichever is less. Please fill out the [nomination form](#) [6], and it will be submitted to the prize subcommittee. The Eberhart Award has different rules and procedures than the other DPS Prizes, please see [its page](#) [5] for more information.

Scroll to the bottom of <https://dps.aas.org/prizes> [7] for rules and procedures.

Questions: dpsprize@aas.org [8] or lucy.mcfadden@verizon.net [9]

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INVITATION TO SUBMIT ABSTRACT TO CASSINI SPECIAL SESSION B5.2 AT COSPAR

All papers on Cassini findings, including Saturn, Rings, Titan, Icy Satellites, and Magnetospheres, are welcome. Potential topics include observations, modeling, theoretical interpretations, laboratory investigations, ground-based observations

as well as future missions and experiments.

COSPAR 2018, B5.2: Cassini Highlights at Saturn (Abstracts due Feb. 9th)
14-22 July 2018
Pasadena, California

<https://www.cospar-assembly.org> [10]

B5.2 Cassini Highlights at Saturn

The Cassini mission’s findings have revolutionized our understanding of Saturn, its complex rings, the amazing assortment of moons and the planet’s dynamic magnetic environment. The robotic spacecraft arrived in 2004 after a 7-year flight from Earth, dropped a parachuted probe to study the atmosphere and surface of Saturn’s big moon Titan, and commenced making astonishing discoveries until the spacecraft’s blazing plunge into Saturn’s atmosphere ended the mission in September 2017.

The Organizing Committee welcomes papers relevant to the Cassini mission that address observations, modeling, and theoretical interpretation. Papers are also welcome on supporting laboratory investigations, Earth and HST observations, and plans for future spacecraft missions and experiments. Papers highlighting a comparison of Cassini at Saturn and Juno at Jupiter results are welcome also.

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UPCOMING MEPAG MEETINGS

VM1 Virtual MEPAG meeting

February 20, 2018, 1-3 p.m. EST

and

Spring 2018 / 36th MEPAG Meeting

April 3-5, 2018

Washington DC region (Crystal City)

Members of the Mars community,

I cordially invite you to participate in two upcoming Mars Exploration Program Analysis Group (MEPAG) meetings: a) on February 20, 2018, 1-3 p.m. EST will be a virtual meeting (VM1), while b) on April 3-5, 2018, will be the annual face-to-face MEPAG Meeting (#36). Details for both of these meetings are given on the attached pages, and posted at:

<https://mepag.jpl.nasa.gov/meetings.cfm> [11]

These meetings are open to all members of the Mars science community including our international colleagues. I look forward to your participation.

Dr. Jeffrey R. Johnson

MEPAG Chair

Important Dates

Friday, January 26: 1st Meeting 36 Informational Circular released

Sunday, February 11: Meeting 36 Early Career Travel Grant application deadline

Tuesday, February 20: MEPAG Meeting VM1 (virtual), includes Q&A about Meeting 36

Thursday, February 22: Forum presentation abstract deadline

Early March: 2nd Meeting 36 Informational Circular released, including draft agenda

Friday, March 23: Registration deadline (not required, but requested for logistics planning)

Tuesday-Thursday, April 3-5: MEPAG Meeting 36

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ROSETTA WORKSHOP ON COMETS AND THEIR ROLE IN SOLAR SYSTEM FORMATION

The Rosetta spacecraft completed its observations of Comet 67P/Churyumov-Gerasimenko in September 2016, but analysis and interpretation of the data are continuing. The Rosetta Project is holding one of its last Science Working Team meetings from 28 May to 1 June 2018 in Rhodes, Greece, and invites the scientific community to participate. The discussions/presentations will focus on three themes:

- 1) Where and how did comets form, how are they put together, and what is their role in solar system and planetary formation scenarios?
- 2) What are comets made of?
- 3) How do comets work?

Additional information is available at the workshop website:

<https://www.cosmos.esa.int/web/rosetta-swt-49> [12]

Note that attendees must register in advance via the website prior to 26 March 2018. March 26th is also the deadline for obtaining a special room rate at the conference hotel. A registration fee of approximately 300 Euros will be collected on-site, and must be paid in cash (Euros). The exact fee will be determined by the number of registrants.

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FIRST ANNOUNCEMENT OF DIDYMOS OBSERVER WORKSHOP 2018

2018 June 19-21

Prague, Czech Republic

The binary near-Earth asteroid (65803) Didymos is the planned target for the Asteroid Impact & Deflection Assessment (AIDA, <https://www-n.oca.eu/michel/AIDA/> [13]) mission. AIDA will be the first space experiment to demonstrate asteroid impact hazard mitigation by using a kinetic impactor to deflect an asteroid. It is an international cooperation, consisting of two mission elements: the NASA Double Asteroid Redirection Test (DART, <http://dart.jhuapl.edu/> [14]) mission and the ESA Hera (previously known as AIM) rendezvous mission.

Remote (mostly Earth-based) observations of Didymos are an important part of the mission. In this workshop, we will discuss observations for the 2019, 2020-2021, and 2022 apparitions of Didymos. We will discuss detailed plans and expected outcomes for 2019 observations and preliminary observing plans for the subsequent apparitions.

Additional meeting information is available at:

<http://didymos2018-mtg.asu.cas.cz/> [15]

The full first announcement is available at:

http://didymos2018-mtg.asu.cas.cz/didymosprague2018_firstannouncement.txt [16]

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JOBS, POSITIONS, OPPORTUNITIES

A) TENURE-TRACK PLANETARY SCIENCES FACULTY POSITION AT CALTECH

The Division of Geological and Planetary Sciences at the California Institute of Technology is seeking outstanding applicants for a tenure-track faculty position in planetary science at the assistant professor level. We are especially interested in individuals whose research complements that in the Division, which covers the full spectrum of the earth and planetary sciences. We are particularly interested in applicants with solar system-focused research programs in planetary geophysics/geology, planetary atmospheric sciences, or small bodies research; but those in other sub-disciplines will be considered. Review will begin March 16, 2018.

For more details and to apply for the position: <https://applications.caltech.edu/job/ps> [19]

B) FACULTY POSITION IN ASTRONOMY/ASTROPHYSICS

Howard University

Washington, DC

<https://jobregister.aas.org/ad/738558be> [20]

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Send submissions to:

Anne Verbiscer, DPS Secretary (dpssec@aaas.org [21])

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