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 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.


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.

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

PLANNING SOLAR SYSTEM OBSERVATIONS WITH JWST IN CYCLE-1

In light of the April 6, 2018, deadline for JWST Cycle-1 observing proposals, a 4-hour webinar will be held on February 13 from 10a-2p (EST) and will summarize JWST planning tools and their application to observations of solar system targets.
These tools include the Astronomer’s Proposal Tool (APT), Exposure Time Calculator (ETC), the Target Visibility Tool, and best practices for Solar System proposers.

Operational constraints that affect observations of solar system targets will be summarized and include: bright limits, pointing constraints, track rates, and the impact of ephemeris uncertainties on certain observing modes.

Science instrument capabilities and applications will be briefly summarized, but are described extensively in 12 papers in PASP v128, 959 & 960 (2016).

The Online ONLY webinar will be held on February 13, 2018 from 10a - 2p EST.

WebEx information:


Meeting number: 902 908 849
Meeting password: JWST2018
Audio connection: +1-510-210-8882 USA toll (International numbers can be found through the link above.)

Further details including presentation materials can be found here: https://tinyurl.com/y9clnm3t [11]

NEW OPAG GOALS DOCUMENT POSTED FOR COMMUNITY COMMENTS

An extensively revised draft goals document for the Outer Planets Assessment Group has been posted at https://www.lpi.usra.edu/opag/ [12]. We invite the OPAG science community to provide feedback by using the OPAG Discussion Board:


To use this, you must have filled out a notification of interest form at https://www.lpi.usra.edu/opag/opag.cfm [14] and register for the discussion board.
This document will be discussed at the next OPAG meeting February 21-23 in Hampton, Virginia.

This document will influence both the next decadal survey and near-term decisions such as what mission concepts to study and technologies to support, and provides a resource for PI-led proposals to SIMPLEx, Discovery, New Frontiers, telescopic observations, and for R&A.

-OPAG Steering Committee

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NASA SEEKING VOLUNTEER REVIEWERS IN EARTH AND SPACE SCIENCE

NASA's Science Mission Directorate (SMD) is seeking subject matter experts to serve as mail-in and/or panel reviewers of proposals to ROSES and other SMD solicitations. Just follow the links below to the volunteer review forms and click the boxes to indicate the topics in which you consider yourself to be a subject matter expert. If your skills match our needs for that review, we will contact you to discuss scheduling.

We are currently seeking reviewers for:

- Advancing Collaborative Connections for Earth System Science (ACCESS)
- Astrophysics Data Analysis
- Astrophysics Research and Analysis
- Earth Surface and Interior and Space Geodesy Programs
- Habitable Worlds
- Solar System Workings
- Earth Science (Graduate Student) Fellowship Proposals
- Space Science (Graduate Student) Fellowship Proposals
The names of the programs above should contain links to those individual review forms, but the landing page all of these forms may be found at:

http://science.nasa.gov/researchers/volunteer-review-panels/ [15]

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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 [16]

Please register (at no cost) at the website.

Abstract submission is now open.

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JPL PLANETARY SCIENCE SUMMER SEMINAR
The Planetary Science Summer Seminar prepares the next generation of engineers and scientists to participate in future solar system exploration missions. Participants learn the mission life cycle, roles of scientists and engineers in a mission environment, mission design interconnectedness and trade-offs, and the importance of teamwork.

https://psss.jpl.nasa.gov/ [17]

Application Deadline: April 2, 2018

JOBS, POSITIONS, OPPORTUNITIES

A) POSTDOCTORAL POSITION IN ASTEROID SCIENCE AT MPS, GERMANY

The Max Planck Institute for Solar System Research in Göttingen, Germany, invites applications for a postdoctoral position to work on the active binary asteroid 288P/300163. Details are found at

http://www.mps.mpg.de/5230867/job_full_offer_11934395?c=2169 [18]

B) 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]

C) NEW POSTDOCTORAL POSITION AT MIT

Applications are invited for a postdoctoral position at MIT to work on the physical characterization of near-Earth objects. This position will be supervised by Dr. Francesca DeMeo. The postdoctoral associate will work in collaboration with Dr. DeMeo and other project team members on the MIT-Hawaii Near Earth Object Spectroscopic Survey, a long-running near-infrared spectral survey using SpeX on the NASA IRTF. The position is to take a leading role in target selection, spectroscopic observations (~1 night per month), reduction, and data analysis.

To apply, send the following to fdemeo@mit.edu [20]:

* A Cover Letter
* A Curriculum Vitae
* A Statement of past research accomplishments and future research goals (2 pages or less)
* Phone numbers and e-mail addresses of three references

The start date is Summer or early Fall 2018. Review of applications will begin on 15 March 2018. The position will remain open for applications until filled.

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Send submissions to:

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

To unsubscribe visit http://aas.org/unsubscribe [22] or email unsubscribe@aas.org [23].

To change your address email address@aas.org [24]