

## Newsletter 12-16

Issue 12-16, July 13, 2012

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UPDATE FROM THE CHAIR : WELCOME TO RENO !

I have good news and bad news about the DPS Annual Meeting in Reno NV (October 14-19). First the bad news. In the past DPS has enjoyed the financial support of NASA Headquarters for portions of the meeting costs. Traditionally the Headquarters grant has covered the costs of publishing the meeting abstracts in the BAAS, but in recent years (the Fajardo and Pasadena meetings) the grant paid for some of the major costs of meeting organization, meeting planning, and registration processing. But the NASA Headquarters grant, in its past form, exists no longer. The scandal that broke over the General Services Administration Western regional meeting in Las Vegas has caused all federal agencies to tighten their meeting support policies. The effect on DPS is to call into question any NASA headquarters support for our meeting and to decrease our revenue as much as \$130 per person. There is the possibility of some limited Headquarters support for the BAAS abstract publication, but nothing is certain at this stage.

What is certain is that we need to cut meeting spending. Another factor is the continuing scrutiny of meetings that are largely supported by public money. Most of us go to DPS meetings on NASA grant money, and it should be no surprise to anyone that this is election-year and the knives are out for anything that has the slightest trace of waste or abuse. To save money and to avoid any appearance of abuse, the meeting registration will not be supporting a number of things that were done in the past such as free drinks at the reception and poster sessions (there will be drinks available for purchase), the women in astronomy lunch (there are abundant and inexpensive meal services at the hotel), and entertainment during the reception. What will be supported are the core functions of the meeting: talks, posters, press conferences, and the chance to mingle and talk science in a collegial atmosphere. The bottom line is that the registration is going to be more expensive: Earlybird registration for a regular DPS number will cost \$490 and standard registration will be \$550. This is in the same range as the dollar cost for the joint DPS-EPSC 2011 meeting in Nantes and in many other science meetings, but certainly higher than past DPS meetings.

The good news is that Reno, for all expenses other than registration, is a cheap place to hold a major meeting. This is why we chose Reno and these travel, room, and food costs continue to be a very attractive aspect of this meeting.

- Airfares to Reno are inexpensive compared to most other destinations.
- Room rates are \$94 and \$120 per room night, a significant savings from recent meetings (and a direct result of negotiation and meeting location).
- Food options at the venue offer attractive price-point meals from the \$5 range to high end steakhouses and everything in between. Attendees can budget their food expenses without having to leave the venue.
- Ground transportation to and from the airport to the hotel is complementary.
- Wireless internet access is provided in all attendee lodging rooms free of charge.
- Complimentary bottled water each day in lodging rooms is provided.

I deeply regret the high registration fee, but this cost should be more than offset by the relatively low airfare, room rate, and food costs of this venue. The bottom line is we going to Reno to talk about our science and the LOC/SOC have done a great job in providing a congenial and comfortable setting for our discussions. See you in Reno!

Dan Britt,  
DPS Chair

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DEADLINE FOR THE 44TH DPS ANNUAL MEETING ABSTRACTS COMING UP  
14-19 October 2012  
Reno, Nevada  
Grand Sierra Resort and Casino

<http://www.psi.edu/dps12/> [1]

**Important Dates:**

Abstract Submission Deadline: 9:00 pm ET, Thursday, 19 July 2012  
Regular Registration: 24 July - 3 September 2012  
Late Abstract Submission Deadline: 12:00noon ET, Monday, 3 September 2012  
Public Workshop Meeting Request Deadline: 3 September 2012  
Late Registration: 4 - 26 September 2012  
Hotel Reservations Deadline: 20 September 2012  
Onsite Registration: 14 - 19 October 2012

**Abstracts:**

Please note that the deadline for abstract submission is Thursday, 19 July 2012, 9:00pm ET. We have an exciting Scientific Program planned, with talks and posters on topics ranging from Mercury to Exoplanets! Don't delay, get your abstract in today! Also, the early registration deadline is 27 July, so be sure to register soon to get the reduced meeting rate.

The 44th Meeting of the DPS in Reno, NV has a great line up of Invited talks, Workshops, and Events, and now is your chance to be a part of it!

Full abstract instructions and submission form is available at  
<http://www.psi.edu/dps12/abs.shtml> [2]

Abstract correspondence originates from abstractsonline.com. Please set your spam filters to allow email from abstractsonline.com.

300-word abstracts may be submitted by uploading word processing files, cutting and pasting or typing directly into the abstract form.

**Active in Education & Outreach? Submit an Abstract!**

Many DPS members make valuable contributions in Education & Public Outreach in addition to research, and our annual meeting is your best chance to spread word of your important work. You are strongly encouraged to submit abstracts to the Education/Outreach sessions (oral and poster). This can be in addition to your science abstract: the one-abstract-per-member rule does not apply to education/outreach sessions. Education/Outreach professionals are also strongly encouraged to submit abstracts. These sessions will be a great way to share ideas & best practices. Any questions, please contact us:

Nick Schneider, DPS E/PO Officer, [nick.schneider@lasp.colorado.edu](mailto:nick.schneider@lasp.colorado.edu) [3]

Lou Mayo, E/PO Subcommittee & Reno Program Committee, [louis.a.mayo@nasa.gov](mailto:louis.a.mayo@nasa.gov) [4]

### Reno Hotel Information

DPS has secured fantastic hotel room rates at the Grand Sierra Resort and Casino!

Your stay at the Grand Sierra Resort and Casino includes complimentary transportation to/from the Reno-Tahoe International Airport. Booking within the DPS room block will ensure that your daily resort fee is waived.

Grand Sierra Guestrooms: Single and Double Rooms \$94

Government Rate: Single and Double Rooms \$94

Luxury Summit Guestrooms: Single and Double Rooms \$120

To make a reservation, call 1-800-648-5080 and reference the "DPS Annual Meeting." You may also use the custom online DPS reservation

page at [https://resweb.passkey.com/Resweb.do?mode=welcome\\_ei\\_new&eventID=3192976](https://resweb.passkey.com/Resweb.do?mode=welcome_ei_new&eventID=3192976) [5].

Reservations made through the Grand Sierra homepage will not guarantee you the DPS Meeting rate.

The deadline to make reservations is 20 September 2012. Booking outside of our reserved block results in significant increase in meeting costs for everyone.

### Calling all Volunteers!

Participate at the DPS Reno meeting as a volunteer for 16 hours, and receive complimentary registration. This is a great opportunity for undergrads, grads, postdocs, and local amateur astronomers at our meetings: to supervise sessions, help at registration, usher at events, and various other odd (but greatly appreciated) jobs. This is a great chance to meet and mingle with your peers, get up to date on the newest science, and pick up some cool freebies in the Exhibit Hall. Sign up today at

[http://aas.org/meetings/dps/volunteer\\_form](http://aas.org/meetings/dps/volunteer_form) [6]

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REMINDER: DEADLINE TO VOTE AT THE DPS ELECTIONS APPROACHING

PLEASE TAKE A MOMENT TO VOTE !!!

We would like to remind you that the 2012 election for DPS Vice-Chair and Committee is now open, and will close on July 30th 2012.

To vote, go to <http://aas.org/vote/> [7].

You will need your AAS member login ID (which defaults to your membership number), and your password. If you haven't registered to or renewed your DPS membership recently, please take a moment to do so now. This will allow you to vote and benefit from all membership advantages.

You should vote for one of the two candidates for Vice-Chair:

Heidi Hammel, AURA

Jeff Moore, NASA Ames

The Vice-Chair will become the DPS Chair in October 2012.

You should vote for two of the four candidates for DPS Committee:

Ross Beyer, SETI Institute

Sebastien Charnoz, AIM, Univ. Paris Diderot, France

Amanda Sickafoose Gulbis, Southern African Large Telescope

Paul Withers, Boston University

The successful candidates will serve on the committee for three years after October 2012.

The detailed vitae and position statements for each of the can be found on the main election page, <http://aas.org/vote/> [7]

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## 2013 MEMBERSHIP ONLINE RENEWALS STARTING IN SEPTEMBER

The 2013 renewal period will begin in September. More than fifty percent of the membership renewed online during the 2012 renewal period. We considered 2012 a success and look forward to having more than 80 percent renew online for 2013. Renewing early saves the AAS substantial cost and increases the funding available for our programs.

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## UPCOMING MEETINGS

A planetary meeting calendar is posted at  
<http://planetarynews.org/meetings.html> [8]

If there is a planetary-related meeting, conference or workshop of which your colleagues should be aware, please send the date, title, URL and location to pen\_editor at psi.edu.

You may also want to consult the Planetary meetings and Conferences Calendar at:  
<http://www.lpi.usra.edu/meetings/> [9]

### A) AGU 2012 PS SESSION 22: POLARIMETRY AS AN INVALUABLE TOOL TO STUDY THE SOLAR SYSTEM AND BEYOND

Polarimetry is a powerful tool providing a wealth of information about astronomical objects that cannot be obtained by traditional photometric/spectroscopic observations. Recent applications include characterization of solar system objects (sun, planetary atmospheres, moon, comets, asteroids, satellites, ring systems, asteroids, dust) to the detection of exoplanets and identification of biological markers. This session is open to papers about recent spectropolarimetric observations of solar system bodies, theoretical or experimental investigations, instrumental developments for spectropolarimeters to be included in ground-based facilities or onboard future space missions, exoplanets and circumstellar envelopes.

Some of our speakers are: M. Mishchenko (NASA/GISS); R. West (JPL); D. Stam (SRON).

The meeting website is <http://fallmeeting.agu.org/2012/> [10]

The registration and housing is open on July 12, 2012.

The abstract submission website is <http://agu-fm12.abstractcentral.com/> [11]

Abstract deadline: August 8, 2012, 23:59ET/3:59+1 GMT

#### Conveners

Herve Lamy, Belgian Institute for Space Aeronomy, Brussels, Belgium

Padma Yanamandra-Fisher, SSI, Boulder, CO, United States

Ludmilla Kolokolova, Univ. of Maryland, College Park, MD, United States

Mathieu Barthelemy, IPAG, Grenoble, France.

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[herve.lamy@aeronomie.be](mailto:herve.lamy@aeronomie.be) [14]

[mathieu.barthelemy@obs.ujf-grenoble.fr](mailto:mathieu.barthelemy@obs.ujf-grenoble.fr) [15]

### B) AGU FALL 2012 SPECIAL SESSION P021: PLANETARY SURFACES IN MOTION

With the advent of high spatial resolution and increasing temporal baselines, spacecraft observations

have documented surface changes on planetary bodies at decadal, annual, and shorter timescales. These data provide fundamental insight into active surface changes, which vary in type, mode, and magnitude across the Solar System, and provide motivation for model, terrestrial analog, and laboratory studies that seek to better understand underlying physical mechanisms and relevant environment conditions. This session seeks abstracts focused on observations and modeling of surface processes, including fluvial, volcanic, mass wasting, aeolian and other agents that cause changes that can be monitored by spacecraft. Laboratory and field analog studies are also welcome.

<http://fallmeeting.agu.org/2012/session-search/single/planetary-surfaces...> [16]

For abstract submission policies see:

<http://fallmeeting.agu.org/2012/scientific-program/abstract-submission-p...> [17]

Abstract deadline: August 8, 2012, 23:59ET/3:59+1 GMT

Conveners:

Serina Diniega (Jet Propulsion Laboratory; [serina.diniega@jpl.nasa.gov](mailto:serina.diniega@jpl.nasa.gov) [18] - feel free to contact me with any questions)

Zibi Turtle (Johns Hopkins University)

Sue Smrekar (Jet Propulsion Laboratory)

Alfred McEwen (University of Arizona)

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### Links:

[1] <http://www.psi.edu/dps12/>

[2] <http://www.psi.edu/dps12/abs.shtml>

[3] <mailto:nick.schneider@lasp.colorado.edu>

[4] <mailto:louis.a.mayo@nasa.gov>

[5] [https://resweb.passkey.com/Resweb.do?mode=welcome\\_ei\\_new&eventID=3192976](https://resweb.passkey.com/Resweb.do?mode=welcome_ei_new&eventID=3192976)

[6] [http://aas.org/meetings/dps/volunteer\\_form](http://aas.org/meetings/dps/volunteer_form)

[7] <http://aas.org/vote/>

[8] <http://planetarynews.org/meetings.html>

[9] <http://www.lpi.usra.edu/meetings/>

[10] <http://fallmeeting.agu.org/2012/>

[11] <http://agu-fm12.abstractcentral.com/>

[12] <mailto:padma@spacescience.org>

[13] <mailto:ludmilla@astro.umd.edu>

[14] <mailto:herve.lamy@aeronomie.be>

[15] <mailto:mathieu.barthelemy@obs.ujf-grenoble.fr>

[16] <http://fallmeeting.agu.org/2012/session-search/single/planetary-surfaces-in-motion/>

- [17] <http://fallmeeting.agu.org/2012/scientific-program/abstract-submission-policies/>
- [18] <mailto:serina.diniega@jpl.nasa.gov>