

Newsletter 13-20

Issue 13-20, July 29, 2013

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IN MEMORIAM : JEFFREY K. WAGNER (1952 - 2013)

It is with great sadness that we announce the death from brain cancer Dr. Jeffrey K. Wagner, passed away July 8. He received a Bachelor of Science in astronomy from Penn State University in 1974 and a Ph.D. in geology and planetary sciences from the University of Pittsburgh in 1980. Wagner was a Professor of Astronomy and Geology at Bowling Green State University Firelands College for 30 years. Jeff's name is familiar to everyone in the field of spectroscopy of planetary surfaces. His seminal work on the ultraviolet reflectances of planetary materials, which formed his Ph.D dissertation, opened a new field in planetary spectroscopy. He was the author of the book "Introduction to the Solar System," which was published in 1991 and often used in the classroom by his students.

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LAST CHANCE TO VOTE IN THE DPS ELECTIONS

LAST CHANCE TO VOTE !! WE HAVE EXTENDED THE DEADLINE TO 5 AUGUST BUT THAT'S ONLY A FEW OF DAYS AWAY !

The 2013 election for DPS Vice-Chair and Committee is STILL open, BUT will close on August 5th. To date only a small fraction of us have voted ... You may just have forgotten or not found the time yet, but please do take a moment and cast your vote, it is important for our Division !

To vote, go to

<http://aas.org/vote/> [1]

You will need your AAS member login ID (which defaults to your membership number), and your password. Please take a moment to check your status and to update your personal DPS member file.

If you have any problems, and for general replies, or if you are a special status (affiliate, etc) write to or call :

Faye Peterson

Director of Membership Services

Peterson@aas.org [2]

202.328.2010, extension 109

202.234.2560, fax

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45TH MEETING OF THE DIVISION FOR PLANETARY SCIENCES: REMINDERS

Denver, CO, 6-11 October 2013

<http://aas.org/meetings/45th-meeting-division-planetary-sciences> [3]

1. Register Now for the Best Rates

Regular Registration: 24 July - 5 September 2013

Late Registration: 6 September - 19 September 2013

Register by 23 July to receive the discounted rate! Rates increase 24 July 2013.

2. Hotel Information

DPS has secured rooms at the Sheraton Downtown Denver Hotel.

The deadline to make reservations is 3 September 2013. Booking outside of our reserved block results in significant increase in meeting costs for everyone.

3. Calling all Volunteers!

The American Astronomical Society and DPS are looking for volunteers to help out at the 45th Meeting of DPS in Denver, CO. We love getting help from 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.

Volunteers that sign up to work a minimum of 16 hours receive complimentary meeting registration, volunteer t-shirts, and access to the Exhibit Hall and all the sessions. We also provide complimentary lunch and parking on the days you work 4 or more hours.

If interested, please contact Kathy Cox at kathy.cox@aas.org [4] or 202-328-2010 x117.

4. Exhibiting at DPS

Exhibitors at the DPS Meeting have an opportunity to speak directly with the customers they are serving. If your institution, observatory, company, lab or university is doing business in astronomy...you need to be exhibiting at the DPS Meeting in Denver. Contact Debbie Kovalsky, debbie.kovalsky@aas.org [5] or 202-328-2010 x110.

<http://aas.org/dps-45th-meeting/45th-dps-meeting-exhibitor-and-sponsorsh...> [6]

5. Sponsorship Opportunities

Are you looking for more exposure for your company and a way to support astronomy? Look no further than a DPS Meeting Sponsorship. We can customize packages to fit your budget and needs. Contact Debbie Kovalsky, debbie.kovalsky@aas.org [5] or 202-328-2010 x110.

<http://aas.org/dps-45th-meeting/45th-dps-meeting-exhibitor-and-sponsorsh...> [6]

6. Donations

Please also remember to donate to the new professional development award for planetary scientists, the Susan Niebur Professional Development Fund. The fund will provide financial assistance to qualifying DPS members to facilitate their attendance at the annual DPS meeting by offsetting dependent-care costs, either at the meeting location or at home during the week of the conference. In this, its inaugural year, the Susan Niebur Professional Development Fund will support Dependent Care Grants for the 45th annual meeting of the DPS in Denver, Colorado, 6-11 October 2013.

To apply, please fill out the online form by Sept. 2, 2013 at:

<http://aas.org/dps-45th-meeting/45th-dps-meeting-dependent-care> [7]

More information about the new fund, including how to donate:

<http://dps.aas.org/development/susan-niebur-professional-development-fund> [8]

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PRESENTATIONS FROM NASA PLANETARY SCIENCE SUBCOMMITTEE TELECON OF JULY 19, 2013

The NASA Advisory Council Planetary Science Subcommittee held a telecon on July 19, 2013. The presentation materials are available at <http://www.lpi.usra.edu/pss/> [9].

You will find presentations by Jim Green on the status of the Planetary Science Division, by Mitch Schulte on the Mars 2020 SDT, and by Chris House on the Astrobiology Roadmap.

The Meeting Report will also soon be posted there.

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RESOURCES FOR E/PO IN ASTRONOMY

A) POPULAR ASTRONOMY LECTURES CAN BE SEEN ON YOUTUBE

We are happy to announce that the Silicon Valley Astronomy Lectures, featuring noted scientists giving nontechnical illustrated lectures on recent developments in astronomy, are now available on their own YouTube Channel, at:

<http://www.youtube.com/SVAstronomyLectures/> [10]

The talks include:

- * Frank Drake discussing his modern view of the Drake Equation,
- * Michael Brown explaining how his discovery of Eris led to the demotion of Pluto,
- * Alex Filippenko talking about the latest ideas and observations of black holes,
- * Natalie Batalha sharing the latest planet discoveries from the Kepler mission,
- * Anthony Aguirre discussing how it is possible to have multiple universes, and
- * Chris McKay updating the Cassini discoveries about Saturn's moon Titan.

The lectures are taped at Foothill College near San Francisco, and co-sponsored by NASA's Ames Research Center, the SETI Institute, and the Astronomical Society of the Pacific.

Note that the top page of the channel shows the lectures in the order they happened to be uploaded to YouTube. If you want to see them in chronological order, select the Playlist option.

Both new and older talks in the series will be added to the channel as time goes by. Many noted astronomers have given talks in this series since its founding in 1999; recent lectures are being recorded so that people around the world can "tune in."

We appreciate your sharing this information with colleagues, students, and interested astronomy enthusiasts.

Andrew Fraknoi, Chair, Astronomy Program

B) GUIDE TO RESOURCES FOR TEACHING ABOUT EXOPLANETS

A new annotated guide to written, web, and audio-visual resources for teaching about planets orbiting other stars is now available for high-school and college instructors, their students, informal educators, and astronomy enthusiasts. Materials in the guide to this rapidly-changing branch of astronomy include video and audio files of lectures and interviews with leading scientists in the field, phone and tablet apps, a citizen-science web site, popular-level books and articles, and much more.

Published by the NASA Astrophysics Education and Outreach Forum and the Astronomical Society of the Pacific, the guide can be found as a PDF file at:

<http://www.astrosociety.org/education/astronomy-resource-guides/the-sear...> [11]

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JOB/POSITION OPPORTUNITIES

A) SCIENTIFIC RESEARCHER AT THE UNIVERSITY OF MUENSTER

The Institut fuer Planetologie, University of Muenster, invites applications for a scientific researcher position, starting on October 1, 2013 or as soon as possible thereafter. The salary level will be E13 TV-L (full-time). The duration will be 19 months; an extension for additional 24 months will be possible.

Required Qualifications:

- Experience in independent work in electron microscopy (TEM, FIB, etc.) and related sample preparation techniques
- Knowledge in space weathering and other relevant processes
- Background in mineralogy/planetology
- Knowledge in laboratory experiments
- Experience and willingness to present results at conferences and in peer reviewed journals

The University of Muenster is an equal opportunity employer and is committed to increasing the proportion of women academics.

Consequently, we actively encourage applications by women. Female candidates with equivalent qualifications and academic achievements will be preferentially considered within the framework of the legal possibilities. We also welcome applications from candidates with severe disabilities. Disabled candidates with equivalent qualifications will be preferentially considered. Travel expenses for an interview cannot be refunded.

Please submit your applications including a cover letter, CV, and publication list until 11.08.2013 (PDF) to:

Prof. Dr. H. Hiesinger
mertis@uni-muenster.de [12]

For more information:
http://www.uni-muenster.de/Rektorat/Stellen/ausschreibungen/st_20132507_... [13]

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UPCOMING MEETINGS

See also: PLANETARY MEETING CALENDAR ADDITIONS

Posted at <http://planetarynews.org/meetings.html> [14]

A) AGU FALL MEETING

San Francisco, CA, December 9-13, 2013.

<http://fallmeeting.agu.org/2013/> [15]

Abstract Deadline - Tuesday, 6 August 2013

- SESSION P025: SATURN'S NORTHERN SPRING --FROM STORMS TO POLAR VORTICES

Conveners: Brigette Hesman, Kunio Sayanagi, Scott Edgington, and Kevin Baines

This session solicits presentations on new Cassini, Hubble, and ground-based observations and the subsequent analyses of Saturn's atmosphere. The session will focus in particular on 1) the analysis of the great storm of 2010-2011 and its aftermath; and 2) new observation of Saturn's north pole, which is in sunlight for the first time since Cassini's arrival at Saturn.

- SESSION P026 : SHAPE, INTERNAL STRUCTURE, GRAVITY, AND WINDS OF JUPITER AND SATURN

The Juno spacecraft is now on its way to Jupiter and the Cassini spacecraft will visit Saturn toward the end of its mission. One of the main scientific objectives of both missions is to understand the internal structure, gravity, and winds of Jupiter and Saturn. We welcome the submission of abstracts on the following topics:

(1) Analytical or numerical models of shape and internal structure of rapidly rotating Jupiter and Saturn;

(2) Relationship between the shape and internal structure of Jupiter and Saturn

and their external gravity fields;

(3) Analytical or numerical models of winds/circulations of Jupiter and Saturn; as well as their effects on the zonal gravity

coefficients of Jupiter and Saturn;

(4) Analytical or numerical models of convection/dynamo of Jupiter and Saturn;

(5) Any aspects of the Juno and Cassini missions that are related to shape, internal structure, gravity, and winds of Jupiter and Saturn.

Conveners:

Gerald Schubert and Keke Zhang

- SESSION P033 - TRACKING DOWN LIFE: STAR BIOSIGNATURES, BIOMARKER SYSTEMS OR THE ENSEMBLE CAST?

Please consider submitting an abstract to the "P033 Tracking Down Life: Star Biosignatures, Biomarker Systems or the Ensemble Cast?" session at the AGU 2013 Fall Meeting, San Francisco, 9-12 December.

The session is a really comprehensive one about biosignatures and we have managed to persuade a stellar slate of Invited Abstracts from (in alphabetical order) Dave DesMarais, Danny Glavin, Chris McKay and Everett Shock who variously will give papers on biosignature-related topics (in alphabetical order) Instruments, Outer planets, Planetary analogs and Terrestrial planets.

Star quality biosignatures are unambiguous: preserved biomolecules, not possibly formed abiotically, but are hard to preserve. Mineral biosignatures (MBs), fossil inorganic metabolites, are robust but can be formed inorganically. But new analysis techniques can tackle preservation and origins. Systematic searches for signs of life should include all options. MBs may have biochemicals in them & so act as beacons or pathfinders to fossil ecosystems.

We seek abstracts on planetary analogs; ancient Earth; organic gaseous and mineral biosigs; biomarker systems - including non-Earth-centric; instruments; quantifying biosig distribution & chance of preservation; etc. We want a spectrum - stars, supporting actors or the ensemble.

Max Coleman <max.coleman@jpl.nasa.gov [16]>

Clark Johnson <clarkj@geology.wisc.edu [17]>

Mark Sephton <m.a.sephton@imperial.ac.uk [18]>

B) GSA 2013 OUTER SOLAR SYSTEM SATELLITES COMPANION SESSIONS
Oct 27-30 in Denver, CO

<http://community.geosociety.org/2013AnnualMeeting/Home/> [19]

To submit an abstract by August 6th, 11:59pm PST, go to:
<https://gsa.confex.com/gsa/2013AM/cfp.epi> [20]

We call to your attention two companion planetary science sessions at the annual Geological Society of America meeting focusing on studies related to the outer solar system satellites.

T9: "Outer Satellite Exploration: The Next 50 Years". This session will discuss current paradigms and unanswered fundamental questions about outer planet satellites that will be important considerations in future outer solar system exploration, and mission and instrument concepts that address them.
David Williams (David.Williams@asu.edu) [21]

T12: "Voyager to New Horizons: Exploring Surface and Interior Processes of Icy Worlds". This session will highlight surface and tectonic processes, interiors, and the thermal evolution of icy satellites, KBOs, and planetary analogs. We encourage experimental and theoretical modeling studies, as well as observational approaches to address current scientific objectives.
Emily Martin (mart5652@vandals.uidaho.edu) [22]

C) IO WORKSHOP 2013: COORDINATION FOR THE EXCEED MISSION
2nd Invitation for Attendance and Talks

Saturday 12th October, 2013
Southwest Research Institute, Boulder, CO

This 1-day scientific meeting will be held in downtown Boulder after DPS Denver to discuss the latest research and developments in Io science since the 2012 Io Workshop.

The Japanese EUV Sprint-A/EXCEED mission will launch in August 2013 to observe the Jovian aurora and Io plasma torus for a number of months. This workshop will focus on topics which might benefit from EXCEED data and coordinated observations at all wavelengths, though presentations on other aspects of Io science will be accepted if time allows.

For more information and to register your interest, please go to:
<http://www.boulder.swri.edu/~con/ioworkshop2013> [23]

Organizers: Constantine Tsang, John Spencer, Fran Bagenal, Rosaly Lopes
Contact Email: con@boulder.swri.edu [24]

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Send submissions to:
Athena Coustenis, DPS Secretary (dpssec@aaas.org) [25]

To unsubscribe visit <http://aas.org/unsubscribe> [26] or email unsubscribe@aaas.org [27].
To change your address email address@aaas.org [28].

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Links

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- [3] <http://aas.org/meetings/45th-meeting-division-planetary-sciences>
- [4] <mailto:kathy.cox@aas.org>
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- [8] <http://dps.aas.org/development/susan-niebur-professional-development-fund>
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- [10] <http://www.youtube.com/SVAstronomyLectures/>
- [11] <http://www.astrosociety.org/education/astronomy-resource-guides/the-search-for-planets-around-other-stars/>
- [12] <mailto:mertis@uni-muenster.de>
- [13] http://www.uni-muenster.de/Rektorat/Stellen/ausschreibungen/st_20132507_sk6.html
- [14] <http://planetarynews.org/meetings.html>
- [15] <http://fallmeeting.agu.org/2013/>
- [16] <mailto:max.coleman@jpl.nasa.gov>
- [17] <mailto:clarkj@geology.wisc.edu>
- [18] <mailto:m.a.sephton@imperial.ac.uk>
- [19] <http://community.geosociety.org/2013AnnualMeeting/Home/>
- [20] <https://gsa.confex.com/gsa/2013AM/cfp.epi>
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