
AGU Planetary Sciences Section NEWSLETTER #35

6 May, 2010

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1) New Officers for the AGU Planetary Science Section

Congratulations to our new AGU Planetary Section Officers!

President - Laurie Leshin <Laurie.Leshin@NASA.gov>
President-Elect - Bill McKinnon <mckinnon@wustl.edu>
Secretary - Lindy Elkins-Tanton <ltelkins@MIT.EDU>

They will be assuming their duties in July 1, 2010. Until then, you may pester the current President (Bruce Jakosky <bruce.jakosky@lasp.colorado.edu>) and Secretary (Bruce Banerdt <bruce.banerdt@jpl.nasa.gov>).

2) Session Proposal Deadline for the Fall 2010 Meeting - May 27

Members of the Earth and space sciences community are invited to propose a session for the 2010 Fall Meeting. All topics relevant to planetary science are encouraged, as long as they focus on scientific results and/or their applications (e.g., tribute sessions are not allowed).

To propose a session or get more information, visit:

http://www.agu.org/meetings/fm10/program/session_proposals.php

or contact one of the Planetary Science Fall Meeting Program Committee representatives (Bruce Banerdt, bruce.banerdt@jpl.nasa.gov or Lindy Elkins-Tanton, ltelkins@mit.edu).

3) Origins 2011: Joint IAU Bioastronomy and ISSOL/International Astrobiology

Society Meeting

Origins 2011, the first joint conference of Bioastronomy (IAU Commission 51) and ISSOL: The International Astrobiology Society, in Montpellier, France, July 3-8, 2011.

For the first time the triennial international conferences sponsored by IAU Commission 51 (Bioastronomy) and by the International Society for the Study of the Origin of Life - The International Astrobiology Society will be held as a joint meeting. The goal of this conference is to bring together scientists from all over the world to share their newest results and insights into the wide field of astrobiology, including the origin and evolution of life and its occurrence in the Universe. This meeting will integrate the relevant interests and techniques of **astronomy/astrophysics, planetary science, geology, chemistry, biology** and also **history of sciences**. Topics will cover the whole range from the evolution of organic molecules in space, to the study of our Solar System and extrasolar planetary systems, up to the origin and evolution of living systems. Attendance by young scientists is encouraged, and it is expected that some travel support will be available.

For more details, please visit: <http://www.origins2011.univ-montp2.fr/>

4) Outer Planets Colloquium Series

Would your institution like a visit and colloquium presentation from an expert in outer solar system science, at no expense to you? Would you like travel support to share your outer solar system research? Presenters and host institutions are sought for the Outer Planets Colloquium Series, a program that matches planetary scientists with university campuses and research institutions.

Participation is open to two- and four-year undergraduate colleges, and to research institutions throughout the United States. Host institutions commit to making the necessary local arrangements. Presenters are encouraged to address the needs of the next generation of scientists (graduate students, interns, and undergraduates) and to give an additional presentation that is free and open to the general public. Other interactions that increase awareness of outer solar system science may also be considered as part of the visit. These may include guest teaching a class, interacting informally with students and faculty, visiting local precollege campuses, or other outreach activities.

A range of topics is anticipated on the basis of speaker participation.

The Colloquium Series will cover the presenter's travel expenses. There will be no honorarium for the speaker.

Application details and further information may be found at:

<http://outerplanets.jpl.nasa.gov/>

5) New "Discoveries in Planetary Science" Classroom Powerpoints Available

The DPS Education Subcommittee announces the 3rd release of "Discoveries in Planetary Science" Classroom Powerpoints, covering five new topics:

- Venus' Active Volcanism
- Martian Glaciers
- Titan Lakes
- Explaining Iapetus
- Waterworld at 40 Lightyears?

These are succinct summaries of discoveries too recent to appear in "Intro Astronomy" college textbooks; each set consists of just three slides to be shown: the discovery itself, a basic explanation based on good planetary science, and the "big picture" context. Another page for further information is provided as well. Powerpoints and pdf's can be downloaded from <http://dps.aas.org/education/dpsdisc>.

Feedback from the community on how these slide sets are used and received is welcomed, and will be used to improve future releases. Planetary scientists with recent or upcoming results of broad interest are encouraged to submit them for consideration by providing an initial draft using the template provided on the website. For more information, contact Nick Schneider & Dave Brain at dpsdisc@aas.org.

For future newsletter items please contact:
Section Secretary Bruce Banerdt, bruce.banerdt@jpl.nasa.gov
