
AGU Planetary Sciences Section NEWSLETTER #33

October 14, 2009

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1) Proposed changes to AGU governance - Upcoming Bylaw Election

Dear Members of the Planetary Science Section,

We are excited to share with you news of pending changes to AGU Governance – we hope you will take a few minutes to learn about these changes and then participate by voting between October 15-31 to ratify updated Bylaws that would enact the new Governance.

There are several types of changes reflected in the new Bylaws that you are being asked to ratify. These changes were approved unanimously by the AGU Council recently after many months of committee work and significant council deliberation. In short, they will:

- 1) Create a new Board of Directors and differentiate both the role and structure of the Board from the more science-focused role and structure of the Council;
- 2) Collapse two former documents (Statutes and Bylaws) into a single set of Bylaws;
- 3) Remove provisions in the new Bylaws that more appropriately belong in Policy and Procedures – typically operationally-focused items that change over time;
- 4) Update language to be in compliance with legal and parliamentary requirements, including accepted best practice in governance standards.

More information is at this website (including a super cool video featuring our own President-elect!):

<http://www.agu.org/elections/bylaws09/index.php>

Although most members won't see a radical difference in their participation in Union meetings and other activities, the most exciting change for our Section is that the Council will now be focused on science, meetings and publications, and will have much broader representation from the membership. This will present new opportunities for multi-disciplinary collaboration and greater visibility of our section across the Union. The new Board of Directors will manage the business affairs of the Union, freeing the

Council members like us to focus on those things that are most important to the membership and to our Section.

We are highly supportive of this modernization of AGU governance and hope you will take the time to understand what is being proposed and make your voice heard by voting.

Best regards,
Bruce Jakosky, President
Laurie Leshin, President-elect

2) Scientific Workshop: Lunar Dust, Plasma and Atmosphere: The Next Steps

A scientific workshop on "Lunar Dust, Plasma and Atmosphere: The Next Steps," will be held January 27–29, 2010 at the Laboratory for Atmospheric and Space Physics (<http://lasp.colorado.edu/>), of the University of Colorado, Boulder, USA. See:

<http://lpa2010.colorado.edu/>

for more information. This meeting is being organized by the Colorado Center for Lunar Dust and Atmospheric Studies (CCLDAS), a NASA NLSI center, see:

<http://lasp.colorado.edu/ccldas/>

Submitted by Alan Stern

3) Chair of the Science and Technology Facilities Council's Aurora Advisory Committee

The position of Chair of the Science and Technology Facilities Council's Aurora Advisory Committee will become vacant at the end of 2009. The Aurora Advisory Committee advises STFC, other research councils and BNSC on the overall UK strategy and priorities for involvement in the European Space Agency's Aurora programme. In common with other STFC advisory bodies AurAC members are expected to have expertise across the breadth of their scientific/technical remits from a range of different organisations and should also have a strong scientific reputation in their field. Complete information on this opportunity can be found at:

<http://www.scitech.ac.uk/About/Strat/Council/AdCom/oth/AurACChairCall.aspx>

Candidates for the position may apply directly or be nominated. The closing date for applications is Monday 2nd November 2009.

Submitted by Bradley Keelor

4) Opening: Education and Public Outreach Manager, Laboratory for Atmospheric and Space Physics, University of Colorado at Boulder

LASP has developed a highly successful and nationally recognized EPO program emphasizing our research in atmospheric, planetary, solar and space sciences. The successful candidate should have demonstrated leadership in the development and implementation of science-based education and public outreach activities. Responsibilities will include development and implementation of EPO components for LASP's existing research programs, as well as future opportunities; establishing and sustaining collaborative programs with other EPO programs (both locally and nationally); coordination of EPO activities by LASP personnel and their collaborators at other institutions; training of LASP personnel participating in EPO activities; and securing funding for EPO program development. More details about LASP and our current EPO activities can be found at our web site:

<http://lasp.colorado.edu>.

For the full job description and to apply, go to:

<http://www.jobsatcu.com>

and search on job posting 808220.

Submitted by Bruce Jakosky

For future newsletter items please contact:
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