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## AGU Planetary Sciences Section NEWSLETTER #42 January, 2012

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### 1) Greetings from the Section President

Greetings and Happy New Year to all! Hope everyone had a relaxing holiday recovering from a record-setting Fall Meeting. Personally, I greatly enjoyed seeing so many colleagues and old friends, and I especially appreciated our three named lectures this year. If you missed them, don't despair! You can view them on line at:

<http://sites.agu.org/fallmeeting/scientific-program/lectures/bowie-and-named-lectures/7dec/>

and

<http://sites.agu.org/fallmeeting/scientific-program/lectures/bowie-and-named-lectures/8dec/>

You may have to scroll to find our lectures – the Whipple on Dec. 7, and the Sagan and Shoemaker on Dec. 8. Check them out!

The contents of this newsletter are heavily focused on something critical to the health of our profession: **service**. Read on and you will find opportunities for devote your time, energy and ideas to advancing Planetary Science – the opportunities range from those for students (we need a new student rep!) to senior scientists (we need editors!) to junior-to-mid-career folks seeking to embark on some AGU service (we need Fall Meeting Program Committee members! This is a great way to position yourself as a future officer of our Section – it's a highly glamorous role, trust me!).

Selfless service to the community was one of the many contributions of our colleague Ron Greeley, who passed away suddenly late last year. Ron taught me Geology 101 and gave me my first academic research job. He was always extremely busy Chairing some important committee and managing his large research group, but he always

found time to mentor me, first as an undergraduate, then as a faculty colleague, and as recently as a few weeks before he died. I know many of you have similar stories about Ron. We are working on a lasting way to honor Ron's memory in the Section and hope to have an announcement about this in the coming months – so stay tuned. In the meantime, as we embark on another year where we are privileged to be able to spend our days seeking to unlock the mysteries of our Solar System (and some others!), I hope you'll take a moment to think about how to give back to this great scientific community, and serve!

Here's to a 2012 full of discoveries!

Laurie Leshin  
Planetary Sciences Section President

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## 2) Congratulations to newly elected 2012 AGU Fellows from our Section!

F. Michael Flasar, NASA Goddard Space Flight Center  
Bruce Jakosky, University of Colorado, Boulder  
Jim Slavin, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor  
Tilman Spohn, Institut für Planetenforschung, Berlin, Germany

Being elected a Fellow of AGU is a special tribute for those who have made exceptional scientific contributions. This designation is conferred upon not more than 0.1% of all AGU members in any given year. Our new Fellows are very deserving and make us proud!

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## 3) Nominate your colleagues for AGU Medals and Awards

It's Awards season, and while they may not be honoring any of us at the Oscars, AGU Awards and Medals are even more important, and you don't have to deal with the pesky paparazzi! NOW is the time to organize nominations for Union-level Awards and Medals – **nominations are due MARCH 16**. Planetary Science isn't always well represented in these Union-level Awards, so it would be great if folks could rally to make and support nominations. Awards where we might have great candidates include:

- Bowie Medal
- Macelwane Medal
- Fleming Medal
- Smith Medal
- Whitten Medal
- Hess Medal
- Flinn Award

- Spilhaus Award
- Excellence in Geophysics Education Award

More information on these awards and the process for nomination can be found at:

<http://sites.agu.org/honors>      There is a great FAQ page...

Also, if you want to discuss potential nominees, you can email any of the section officers (contact info here: <http://www.agu.org/sections/planets/about.php>).

Info about our Section awards will come in a later newsletter, as the deadlines are later.

Finally, AGU has changed the timeline for Fellows nominations – the 2012 Fellows have been announced (see above!), and nominations for 2013 will open next January. Since there are no Fellows nominations this year, let's focus on medals and awards!

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#### **4) IMPORTANT: Call for Members of the AGU Fall 2012 Program Committee**

The Planetary Section is seeking two volunteers for the AGU Fall Program Committee for 2012. Duties include guiding session conveners in organizing their sessions via email and an internet utility during the period August 9 through 31, and attending a meeting in Washington September 5 through 7 to schedule all sessions for the Fall Meeting. Travel to the Washington meeting is paid, along with a small stipend. Planetary Section Secretary Lindy Elkins-Tanton will provide training and support.

Volunteers make the meeting happen at the section level, and we need your help. It's a great way to meet active scientists from all the other sections and get to know the leaders in all the disciplines within planetary science. If you are interested or have questions, please contact Lindy Elkins-Tanton at [ltelkins@dtm.ciw.edu](mailto:ltelkins@dtm.ciw.edu)

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#### **5) Like the AGU Planetary Sciences Section on Facebook!**

Get the latest news from our web guru, Mark Hilverda.

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#### **6) Student representative wanted!**

We'll miss our excellent representative Nina Lanza, who recently graduated with her Ph.D. -- congratulations, Nina! The AGU Planetary Sciences Section is looking for a new motivated planetary science graduate student to join the Executive Committee of

the Planetary Sciences Section. The Planetary Section Student Representative will be responsible for ensuring the voices of students are heard in our Section, and possibly for organizing student events at meetings.

Please contact Section Secretary Lindy Elkins-Tanton at [ltelkins@dtm.ciw.edu](mailto:ltelkins@dtm.ciw.edu).

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### 7) Call for editors for the *Journal of Geophysical Research: Planets*

The Journal of Geophysical Research-Planets is searching to fill two associate editor positions in the areas of near-surface thermal processes, infrared remote sensing, atmospheric and ionospheric dynamics, geochemistry, geochronology, and Mars surface processes. Associate editors are responsible for overseeing the review process of a few manuscripts per month by assigning reviewers and providing a recommendation to the editor. Associate editors play a vital role in maintaining the high level of quality that is expected for articles published in JGR-Planets. Interested candidates should send both a CV and a short letter motivating their interest in being an associate editor to editor Mark Wieczorek at [wieczor@ipgp.fr](mailto:wieczor@ipgp.fr).

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### 8) Call for editors for *Geophysical Research Letters*

AGU is looking for dynamic, well-organized scientists with high editorial standards and strong leadership skills to serve as Editors of *Geophysical Research Letters*. **The search committee is currently looking for candidates in the field of planetary sciences.** The new Editors will be appointed for a 3-year term, beginning as soon as possible.

Applicants should be respected leaders in the community, independent-minded, and even-handed. As Editor you should be committed to further strengthen GRL as a leading AGU letters journal and be proactive in attracting innovative contributions in traditional disciplines and in emerging fields, and able to commit to GRL's fast publication pace. The Union is interested in attracting papers in developing areas and ensuring that readers of GRL receive the best, most timely, and highest impact information possible.

As Editor you will:

- have full authority to accept or reject submitted papers
- handle the review process
- seek out stimulating papers for inclusion in the journal.

A Search Committee appointed by the Union President evaluates candidates and conducts personal interviews with a small number of highly qualified individuals. The President makes the final selection and appointment. All AGU Editors serve at the pleasure of the AGU President.

If you would like to be considered as an Editor of GRL, send your curriculum vitae with a letter of interest via email to [pubmatters@agu.org](mailto:pubmatters@agu.org). If you would like to nominate a highly qualified colleague, send a letter of recommendation to the same email address. Please make sure that you specify GRL in the subject line of the email.

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### **9) Deadline for submitting session proposals for Fall AGU 2012**

Submit your proposals for sessions for Fall AGU 2012 during the period February 20 through April 20.

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### **10) Apply for CPS 9th International School of Planetary Sciences: Across the Earth into Exoplanets**

Dates: June 24 through 29, 2012

Website: <https://www.cps-jp.org/~pschool/pub/2012-06-24/index.html>

Venue: Seapal Suma, a casual seaside resort located near Kobe, Japan

The objective of the school is to promote education and research in planetary sciences for highly motivated graduate students and young researchers by providing them with an opportunity to interact with leading scientists. Note that the term "Planetary Sciences" is used in a broader sense to include astronomy, astrophysics, astrochemistry, astrobiology, astromineralogy, geosciences, space science, cosmology, and other related fields.

The recent wonderful discovery of exoplanets requires us to rethink the Earth and generalize our understandings of the planet. To do so, we should first absorb up-to-date knowledge about the structure of the Earth from the deep interior to the surface, along with the dynamics that produce various geological and geophysical phenomena. We can then apply this knowledge to planets in different states, such as the early Earth, the other planets in the solar system, and exoplanets. This application enables us to better understand the coevolution of a solid planet's interior and its surface in terms of a search for a habitable exoplanet.

Lectures:

- \* David J. Stevenson: Theoretical overview of structure and dynamics of the Earth
- \* Shun-ichiro Karato: Earth mantle dynamics from a planetary perspective
- \* Francis Nimmo: Evolution of rocky and icy planets in the solar system
- \* Philippe Lognonne: Planetary seismology and geophysics
- \* Taku Tsuchiya: High pressure physics of the Earth and beyond
- \* Diana Valencia: Earth-like exoplanets: predictions and observations
- \* Yasuhito Sekine: Coupled evolution of the interior and surface environment of the Earth and planets

All the lectures will be video-recorded and available to the public, along with lecture materials, through the CPS website.

Who are the target participants?

- PhD students, postdocs, and young research/academic staff who have a good command of English
- This school is not intended for bachelor, diploma, and master's students

Important Dates:

All deadline times are 23:59 Japanese Standard Time, UTC+9  
07 February 2012 Travel Grant Application Deadline  
15 February 2012 Registration Application Deadline  
15 February 2012 Abstract Submission Deadline  
29 February 2012 Result Notification

Contact us:

E-mail: [pschool-9info@cps-jp.org](mailto:pschool-9info@cps-jp.org)  
Center for Planetary Science

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For future newsletter items please contact:  
Section Secretary Lindy Elkins-Tanton, [telkins@dtm.ciw.edu](mailto:telkins@dtm.ciw.edu).  
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