
AGU PLANETARY SCIENCES SECTION NEWSLETTER #50 (May 2013)

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1) Letter from the Section President

Dear Colleagues:

Despite the recent good news regarding the FY13 budget bill, passed by Congress, and as detailed in our previous newsletter, NASA's planetary science effort remains in jeopardy. The Administration's proposed budget for FY14 continues the effort to markedly reduce planetary exploration by the United States.

The AGU Planetary Sciences section is deeply concerned about the Administration's renewed proposal to cut NASA's Planetary Science Division, this time by \$200 million compared to the 2013 level enacted by Congress and signed by the President last month. At this level, the budget precludes a major mission to any planet other than Mars after 2017, and precludes exploration of Europa, a high priority for the planetary science community. The request also threatens the cadence of Discovery and New Frontiers missions — cornerstone recommendations of the Planetary Sciences Decadal Survey. The U.S. planetary exploration program has a storied history and a compelling plan for the future. The AGU Planetary Sciences section urges the Administration and Congress to find a path forward that maintains U.S. leadership in planetary science, rather than ceding future exploration of our solar system to other nations.

More details can be found at <http://www.agu.org/sections/planets/planetarybudget.php>. We urge all members of the section to write their representatives and senators, and appropriate members of congressional and senatorial committees. Time is of the essence, as NASA is actively putting together its plan to implement the sequester for this fiscal year, and for which the effect on planetary could be particularly dire. Please write today.

On behalf of the Planetary Sciences Section Executive Committee, — Bill McKinnon, AGU Section President, Planetary Sciences

2) Whipple and Greeley Award Deadline extended to May 31

Nominations are now being solicited for the Ronald Greeley Early Career and Whipple Awards. Details are provided on the [Planetary Sciences Section Web site](#). Please consider outstanding students for the Greeley Award and colleagues for the Whipple Award. Awardees represent the best and brightest in our community, showing the talent and vitality of the Planetary Section within AGU. Nominations should be sent to [Phil Christensen](#) and are due May 31.

3) Receipt of PS session proposals for 2013 Fall AGU

Thank you to all Planetary Science section members who submitted session proposals for the 2013 AGU. Between now and September, the Program Committee will work to organize these sessions into an engaging, informative, and exciting program. Should you have any questions or concerns regarding the Fall program, feel free to contact the PS Program Committee members, Nathan Bridges (nathan.bridges@jhuapl.edu) and Joern Helbert (Joern.Helbert@dlr.de).

4) Workshop on Mathematical Aspects of Geophysical and Astrophysical Fluid Dynamics

Dear all,

We would like to advertise a Workshop on 'Mathematical Aspects of Geophysical and Astrophysical Fluid Dynamics', taking place in Cargese, Corsica, July 22-27 2013, to celebrate the many contributions of Andrew Soward to this field:

<http://mhd.ens.fr/AMS70>

Please note that the number of participants is limited by the venue, and that the 'early bird' registration fee of GBP 350 (covering participation, accommodation, breakfasts, lunches and workshop events) is available only until April 30, 2103; after that date, the registration fee will be GBP 400.

Limited funds are available to support participants who could not otherwise attend the meeting, offering reduced fees. These funds are intended principally for young scientists (PhD students and post-docs). Please contact the organizers directly by email to enquire about this possibility.

Registration is already open, and full registration requires three steps:

- pre-registration, recording your application to attend with the venue (the Institut d'Etudes Scientifiques de Cargese);
- registration, recording your arrival times, etc., for local transportation;
- payment.

Please follow the links at <http://mhd.ens.fr/AMS70/registration.html> and <http://mhd.ens.fr/AMS70/payment.html> , where further information is available.

We hope you will be able to join us in Cargese. If you have any queries, please just contact one of the organizers directly.

Best wishes,

Emmanuel Dormy, Andrew Gilbert, Graeme Sarson

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For future newsletter items please contact:

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