



## Planetary Sciences Section Newsletter: June 2016

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### AGU Planetary Science Section Honors

We are pleased to announce the winners of the 2016 AGU Planetary Sciences Section awards and invited lectures.

The [Ronald Greeley Early Career Award in Planetary Science](#) in recognition of significant early career contributions to planetary science will be presented to Edwin Kite, University of Chicago.

The [Whipple Award](#) in recognition of outstanding contributions in the field of planetary science will be presented to John Spencer, Southwest Research Institute. Dr. Spencer will also present the Whipple Lecture at the AGU Fall Meeting.

The Shoemaker Lecture will be given by Meenakshi ("Mini") Wadhwa of Arizona State University, and the Sagan Lecture will be presented by Nathalie Cabrol of the SETI Institute. The lecture titles will be announced in the Fall Meeting program lineup.

We hope you will join us in congratulating all our section honorees at the Fall Meeting! The awards ceremony and invited lectures will be webcast and made available as an archived presentation on the AGU website.

The complete list of this year's awards and lecture recipients is published in [Eos.org](#). The recipients' names are also posted online on [AGU's home](#); the [honors home page](#) and the [individual section/focus group awards](#).

### 2016 AGU Fall Meeting—Abstracts Now Being Accepted

Thanks to our conveners, we have a terrific set of sessions lined up for the 2016 Fall Meeting. You can [browse all the Planetary Sciences section](#) sponsored, cosponsored, and cross-listed sessions.

Please consider submitting an abstract to one of these sessions. If you have a question on whether your topic fits a session, please contact the conveners for that session, or your Program Committee representatives, Barbara Cohen and Rosaly Lopes. There is a General Contributions session, but note that this will be a poster-only session.

Abstracts are now being [accepted](#).  
The abstract deadline is 3 August, 11:59 p.m. EDT.

Those who submit their abstracts by Wednesday, 27 July, 11:59 p.m. EDT will be entered in a contest for a chance to be a Fall Meeting VIP. VIPs receive express access to the Speaker Ready Room (no waiting in line) OR the free poster printing service, front-row seating for two at all keynote lectures, complimentary coat check service, complimentary round-trip airport transfer, and a VIP gift bag. Submit your abstracts early!

## **AGU Elections Coming Up in August**

We are pleased to announce the slate of candidates for the 2016 AGU election. AGU continues to evolve into a stronger, more innovative organization, thanks to the dedication of volunteer leaders working in partnership with AGU staff.

Please take a few moments to review the members who have agreed to stand for election this year, and prepare now to cast your vote when the polls open on 29 August 2016. Please ensure that your AGU membership and Planetary Sciences section affiliation are up to date by 1 August 2016 so that you will be eligible to vote. Elections can sometimes be determined by a very small margin, so every member's vote is important. The AGU election is a great time for your voice to be heard!

Candidates for the AGU Planetary Sciences section:  
Continuing: President Sarah T. Stewart and Past President Linda T. Elkins-Tanton  
President-elect: Nathan Bridges and Rosaly M. C. Lopes  
Secretary: Jorn Helbert and Michael Mischna

The complete slate of candidates for the sections and the Union can be found [here](#).

## **How to Have a Successful Congressional Visit: A Guide for Planetary Sciences Section Students**

Student and early career members joined AGU's Public Affairs team for a webinar focusing on strategies for connecting and meeting with members of Congress. In 2016, senators and representatives will be in their home states from mid-July through the end of August, as well as in October in the run-up to the election. These are great times to visit local offices and explain to your elected representatives the importance of planetary research. We are fortunate to be in a scientific discipline that has broad bipartisan support, and members of Congress are generally excited to meet students and learn about research being done in their districts. The [webinar](#) has been uploaded, and slides are available [online](#).

## **Help Recognize the 25th Anniversary of *JGR: Planets***

This year marks the 25th anniversary of the first publication of *JGR: Planets*. In recognition of this milestone, the journal is assembling a special collection of influential papers published in the pages of *JGR: Planets* over the past 25 years. We are inviting the community to help identify a representative set of some of the most influential papers *JGR: Planets* has published. Which papers have described or led to fundamental advances in planetary science? Are there papers that have sparked or settled a foundational debate in how we understand the origin and evolution of planetary bodies or the solar system as a whole? We want to hear from you about the papers that you have found to be most influential to you and to the field of planetary science. If you need a reminder of the papers published in *JGR: Planets* over the years, check out any published issue at <http://goo.gl/1NvQPX> or the listing of papers in the Astrophysics Data System (ADS) at <https://goo.gl/oD9sGI>. You can nominate any papers published by *JGR: Planets* in the past 25 years at <https://goo.gl/AgrDK9>.

## ***JGR: Planets* Topical Special Issues**

Are you organizing a topical meeting or a special session at a larger conference this year? *JGR: Planets* is soliciting proposals for special issues on topics of a timely, cross-cutting, or broad nature. Special issues are a great way to collect and share knowledge on important topics in a timely fashion. If you are interested in proposing a special issue, please contact the *JGR: Planets* editors, Steven Hauck, David Baratoux, and Sabine Stanley, at [jgr-planets@agu.org](mailto:jgr-planets@agu.org).

## **Call for Papers: Investigations of the Bagnold Dune Field, Gale Crater—*JGR: Planets* Special Issue**

*JGR: Planets* is soliciting papers for a special issue on the Bagnold dune field on Mars. The Bagnold dune field, Gale crater, is a large and active Martian sand deposit. This special issue welcomes publications studying the dunes, utilizing orbital data and/or the full suite of Mars Science Laboratory instruments from Curiosity's winter 2015–2016 in situ investigation. Related papers on dunes and sands on Mars that contextualize the Bagnold dune field are also welcome. Please see [online](#) for more information and to submit papers.

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To submit future newsletter items, please contact the section secretary, [Barbara Cohen](#).