



Planetary Sciences Section Newsletter: February 2017

Upcoming Events & Deadlines

The latest information about the Planetary Sciences section of AGU can always be found on our [website](#).

- 16 February: [2017 Spring Virtual Poster Showcase \(VPS\)](#)
 - Online abstract submissions are opening for the 2017 Spring Virtual Poster Showcase (VPS) for undergraduate and graduate students. Encourage students in your networks to submit abstracts!
- 16–20 February: [American Association for the Advancement of Science \(AAAS\) Annual Meeting](#), Boston, MA
- 22–23 February: [Outer Planets Assessment Group \(OPAG\) Meeting](#), Atlanta, GA
- 22–23 February: [Mars Exploration Program Analysis Group \(MEPAG\) Meeting](#), Monrovia, CA
- 27 February–1 March: [Planetary Science Vision 2050 Workshop](#), Washington, D.C.
- 20–24 March: [48th Lunar and Planetary Science Conference](#), The Woodlands, TX
- 23–28 April: [European Geosciences Union \(EGU\) General Assembly](#), Vienna, Austria
- 24–28 April: [Astrobiology Science Conference \(AbSciCon\)](#), Mesa, AZ
- 20–25 May: [Japan Geoscience Union–American Geophysical Union \(JpGU-AGU\) Joint Meeting](#), Chiba City, Japan (Abstract Deadline, 16 February)
 - [JpGU-AGU Meeting Student Travel Grant](#): \$1000 for students presenting at the JpGU-AGU Meeting and traveling from outside Japan.
 - [JpGU-AGU Meeting Berkner Travel Fellowship](#): Funds all travel-related expenses for students and early career scientists from low-income and lower- to middle-income countries to present at the JpGU-AGU Meeting.

Executive Announcements

Last fall new section officers were elected for 2017; your new Planetary Science section officers are as follows:

- Sarah Stewart, President
- Rosaly Lopes, President-elect
- Michael Mischna, Secretary

Nominations for 2017 AGU [Union medals, awards, and prizes](#) and [Union Fellows](#) are open through **15 March**. [Section and focus group awards](#) are open until **15 April**. We urge you to take this opportunity to nominate a student, colleague, peer, or mentor whose achievements have made a difference in the Earth and space sciences.

- [Ronald Greeley Early Career Award in Planetary Science](#)
Established in 2012, the Ronald Greeley Early Career Award in Planetary Science is given annually to one honoree (no more than 6 years postdegree) in recognition of significant early career contributions to planetary science. This award is named in honor of AGU Fellow Ronald Greeley for his influential contributions made to training and mentoring planetary scientists.
- [Whipple Award](#)
Established in 1989, the Whipple Award is given annually to one honoree in recognition of

outstanding contributions in the field of planetary science. This award is named in honor of AGU Fellow Fred Whipple, a gifted astronomer most noted for his work on comets. The Whipple Award includes an opportunity to present an invited lecture during the AGU Fall Meeting, held in San Francisco, CA. The Whipple Lecture is webcast and made available as an archived presentation on the AGU website.

- [American Geophysical Union Fellows](#)

This honor is given to individual AGU members who have made exceptional scientific contributions and attained acknowledged eminence in the fields of Earth and space sciences. Since the establishment of the AGU Fellows program in 1962 and in accordance with AGU bylaws, no more than 0.1% of the total membership of AGU is recognized annually. The current list of Fellows is [here](#).

Take Action!

Recent reports of violations of scientific integrity and restrictions on communication of scientific information should concern us all as AGU members. Read about how AGU is addressing these important issues, and make your voice heard!

- Visit [AGU's Policy Action Center](#) to see how you can help, including ways to contact your legislators, and get up-to-date information on issues that relate to AGU science.
- Read a [letter](#) from AGU calling on the current administration to reverse policies that threaten scientific integrity and open communication.
- AGU has reaffirmed its [statement](#) on free and open communication of scientific findings.
- Read the recent statement by AGU President Eric Davidson and AGU Executive Director/CEO Chris McEntee on [the shifting landscape of science](#).

Notable Member Accomplishments

- Two section members received awards at the 2016 Fall Meeting
John Spencer, Fred Whipple Award:



Edwin Kite, Ron Greeley Early Career Award in Planetary Sciences:



- Three section members were honored as AGU Fellows at the 2016 Fall Meeting
 - Linda T. Elkins-Tanton, Arizona State University
 - Paul R. Mahaffy, NASA Goddard Space Flight Center
 - Trevor R. Ireland, Australian National University
- Three named lectures were presented at the 2016 Fall Meeting and can now be viewed with [AGU On-Demand](#)
 - John Spencer, Fred Whipple Lecture, “Serendipity in the Outer Solar System”
 - Meenakshi “Mini” Wadhwa, Eugene Shoemaker Lecture, “To See a World in a Grain of Sand: Insights into Solar System Formation and Evolution from Isotopic Analyses of Planetary Materials”
 - Nathalie Cabrol, Carl Sagan Lecture, “The Co-evolution of Life and Environment, and the Astrobiological Quest”

FYI

Job Announcement: Research Support Specialist III-SPIF Data Manager/GIS Specialist-Cornell University

The Cornell Center for Astrophysics and Planetary Science seeks candidates with GIS experience to fill our Spacecraft Planetary Imaging Facility (SPIF) data manager/GIS specialist position. The SPIF manager is responsible for the management of all aspects of SPIF operations and assisting users in locating, processing, and analyzing spacecraft data stored in NASA Planetary Data Systems (PDS). The successful candidate will hold yearly workshops on ArcGIS, SOCETSET/GPX, and PDS data processing using the U.S. Geological Survey ISIS software package. They will also develop and maintain education/public outreach programs alongside existing center outreach personnel. To apply and see additional information [click here](#). Questions may be directed to [Lynda Sovocool](#) (Finance and Human Resource Manager, Cornell University- CCAPS-ASTROS) via e-mail or by phone at 607-255-4342 . For more job and internship postings, visit the section [website](#).