

**2nd Information Circular**  
**21<sup>th</sup> MEPAG Meeting**  
**July 29-30, 2009**

Letter of Invitation

Members of the Mars community,

I cordially invite you to attend the next meeting of the Mars Exploration Program Analysis Group (MEPAG), scheduled for **July 29-30, 2009** at **Brown University, Providence, Rhode Island**.

This meeting will focus on the Mars Community's inputs into the Planetary Decadal Survey and will include summary briefings of reports as well as ample opportunity to respond to the reports. This is an important time for MEPAG as the recommendations made by the Decadal Survey will strongly influence what planetary missions fly in the upcoming decade. The white papers prepared by the community are going to be critical inputs to the Decadal survey and this is a good opportunity to participate.

Key agenda topics will include:

- Discussion of current Mars program status.
- Planning and position papers for input into the Decadal Survey.
- Planning for future MEPAG work.

The meeting is open to all members of the Mars science community, and I welcome our international colleagues. In addition, we will broadcast the meeting via WebEx for those who cannot attend in person.

I look forward to seeing as many of you there as possible.

Sincerely,  
Dr. Jack Mustard  
MEPAG Chair

<b>DRAFT Agenda for MEPAG meeting of July 29 &amp; 30, 2009 in Providence, RI</b>			
Start	Time	Agenda Item	
Note: Unless otherwise indicated, all time speakers should assume that 30-50% of their time allocation is for discussion.			
<b>Day 1 – Wednesday July 29, 2009</b>			
08:00 AM	00:15	Welcome; MEPAG Purpose, Scope, Expected Results	J. Mustard
08:15 AM	00:45	Mars Program Director's Comments	D. McCuiston
09:00 AM	00:30	ESA's Mars Exploration Activities	TBD
09:30 AM	00:15	Introduction to Mars inputs to the DS	M. Meyer
09:45 AM	00:15	Break	
10:00 AM		<b>Reports on Mission Planning Activity</b>	
10:00 AM	01:00	<i>2016 Trace Gas Orbiter</i>	R. Zurek, TBD
11:00 AM	01:00	<i>Mars Network SAG</i>	co-chairs (TBC)
12:00 PM	01:30	Lunch	
01:30 PM	02:00	<i>MRR-SAG</i>	H. McSween/L. Pratt
03:30 PM	00:15	Break	
03:45 PM	00:45	Decadal Survey Process	D. Smith/Mars Panel Chair
04:30 PM		<b>Community White Papers (order of papers TBD)</b>	
04:30 PM	00:20	Ionosphere of Mars	P. Withers
04:50 PM	00:20	Landing site characterization program	J. Grant/M. Golombek
05:10 PM	00:20	TBD	TBD
05:30 PM		Adjourn	
<b>Day 2 – Thursday July 30, 2009</b>			
08:00 AM	00:15	Recap of yesterday and goals for today	J. Mustard
08:15 AM		<b>Community White Papers (order of papers TBD)</b>	
08:15 AM	00:20	The Value of Landed Meteorological Investigations on Mars	S. Rafkin
08:35 AM	00:20	Mars Atmospheric Science	M. Mischna
08:55 AM	00:20	Mars Polar Science	M. Hecht
09:15 AM	00:20	Planetary Society Whitepaper - title TBD	TBD
09:35 AM	00:15	Break	
09:50 AM		<b>Proposed MEPAG white Papers for the Decadal Survey</b>	
09:50 AM	01:45	Mars state of knowledge, how things have changed since the last DS, objectives and strategies for the next planning period	J. Mustard
11:35 AM	00:15	Mars Technologies	S. Hayati
11:50 AM	01:30	Lunch	
01:20 PM	00:30	Mars Program Implementation: Balancing science direction and engineering/budget constraints	F. Li
01:50 PM	01:00	Discussion	J. Mustard
02:50 PM	00:10	Future Planning for MEPAG Activities	J. Mustard
03:00 PM		Adjourn	
<b><i>The following Decadal Survey white papers are print-only</i></b>			
		Astrobiology - <b>Print only</b>	J. Farmer
		Mars Crustal Magnetism and Dynamo History - <b>Print only</b>	R. Lillis
		Mars Sample Return Reference Paper - <b>Print Only</b>	R. Mattingly/K. Buxbaum
		In-situ Geochronology - <b>Print Only</b>	P. Conrad

## **Basic Logistics**

- *Date*: Wednesday and Thursday, July 29-30, 2009. Starts at 8:30 AM and ends at 5:00 PM on the 29th. Starts at 8:00 AM and ends at 3:00 PM on the 30<sup>th</sup>.
- *Meeting Place*: Brown University, Providence, Rhode Island, in Salomon 001.
- *Lodging Information*: Following is a list of hotels in the area for your convenience in making your reservations. We have not blocked any rooms for this event.

### Biltmore Hotel

Price: starting at \$169.00 plus tax

Distance: 0.88 miles

Phone: (401) 421-0700

Website: [www.providencebiltmore.com](http://www.providencebiltmore.com)

### Courtyard by Marriott

Price: starting at \$169.00 plus tax

Distance: 0.88 miles

Phone: (401) 272-1191

Website: [www.marriott.com/hotels/travel/pvddt-courtyard-providence-downtown/](http://www.marriott.com/hotels/travel/pvddt-courtyard-providence-downtown/)

### Marriott-Providence

Price: starting at \$149.00 plus tax

Distance: 1.35 miles

Phone: (401) 272-2400

Website: [www.marriott.com/hotels/travel/pvdri-providence-marriott-downtown/](http://www.marriott.com/hotels/travel/pvdri-providence-marriott-downtown/)

### Radisson Hotel on the Harbor

Price: starting at \$129.00 plus tax

Distance: 1.04 miles

Phone: (401) 272-5577

Website: [www.radisson.com/providenceri](http://www.radisson.com/providenceri)

### Saunders' Inn at Brown

Price: flat rate of \$120.00; only 24 rooms

Distance: on campus

Phone: (401) 863-7500

Website: [www.brown.edu/Facilities/Saunders\\_Inn/](http://www.brown.edu/Facilities/Saunders_Inn/)

### The Westin

Price: starting at \$175.00 plus tax

Distance: 1.13 miles

Phone: (401) 598-8000

Website: [www.westin.com/Providence](http://www.westin.com/Providence)

### Hampton Inn Providence

Price: starting at \$144.00 plus tax

Distance: 0.88 miles

Phone: (401) 272-1077

Website: <http://hamptoninn1.hilton.com>

- **Transportation:**

*Airports:* T.F. Green Airport, in Warwick, Rhode Island (PVD), is serviced by numerous domestic airlines, including Southwest, Delta, United, and US Airways. Boston Logan Airport (BOS) is an hour north of Providence and is serviced by both domestic and international airlines. T.F. Green Airport is approximately 15 miles from campus.

*From T.F. Green Airport* to Providence, a taxi ride is ~\$30.00. Airport Taxi and Limo Service (actually a van shuttle service) offers an \$11.00 ride with a number of stops at Providence hotels and Brown. See their website for a schedule: <http://www.airporttaxiri.com/>

*From Boston Logan Airport,* Peter Pan bus line (peterpanbus.com) offers regularly scheduled trips to Providence with a link to downtown Providence. If you're traveling light, the Boston subway (the T) offers the silver line from Logan to South Station where you can connect to a train to Providence. For schedules, see [www.mbta.com/](http://www.mbta.com/) and select subway>silver line and then rail>Providence/Stoughton line. For subway tokens, use the vending machines located in the baggage claim areas. Logan Airport is approximately 55 miles from Providence.

*From the hotels:* Most of the hotels are approximately the same general distance from Brown University and can be walked in good weather with a steep hill climb up College Hill (fine for the fit or younger crowd, but others may arrive to the meeting huffing and puffing). Of course there are buses and trolleys available. An option is to take a ride through the tunnel, getting on at the bottom (Main Street) and getting off at the top (Thayer Street, the center of the Brown area). Cabs are also an option.

*Parking:* Driving to Brown is strongly discouraged due the scarcity and inconvenience of distant parking lots. There are some on-street parking spaces with a 3-hour limit.

#### General Information Web Addresses

Brown University: <http://www.brown.edu>

City of Providence: <http://www.ProvidenceRI.com>

#### WebEx Logistics

Directions will be provided in a later announcement.

If you need additional information, please contact Charles Budney, MEPAG meeting coordinator, [charles.j.budney@jpl.nasa.gov](mailto:charles.j.budney@jpl.nasa.gov), phone = 818-354-3981, FAX = 818-393-3800. If you have updates to the master MEPAG e-mail list (either correction of faulty e-mail addresses, addition of Mars science colleagues who have been inadvertently omitted), or deletions, please contact Joyce Pulliam (Joyce.N.Pulliam@jpl.nasa.gov).

Maps of Providence area and Brown University.

Link to Providence area map: <http://www.mapquest.com/mq/10-nLrPpuXT>

See following pages for Brown University maps.

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Salomon

**BUILDINGS**

- ALL (233)
- ACADEMIC (82)
- ADMINISTRATION (18)
- ATHLETICS (7)
- DINING (3)
- DORMITORY (48)
- COMMERCIAL (11)
- LIBRARY (5)
- RENTAL (35)
- STUDENT AC (6)
- SUPPORT (18)

**BLUE LIGHTS**

**SALOMON CTR FOR TEACHING**  
69-91 WATERMAN ST  
PROVIDENCE, RI 02912

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