

Mars Exploration Science Monthly Newsletter

A publication of the Mars Program Office and the Mars Exploration Program Analysis Group (MEPAG)

October 2016

Mars Science News

Agenda Updated for MEPAG meeting #32: October 6, web-only

Dr. Jeffrey R. Johnson, MEPAG Chair, cordially invites you to participate in the 32nd meeting of the Mars Exploration Program Analysis Group (MEPAG), scheduled as a **virtual meeting on October 6th, 2016, 8:30am-12:30pm PDT**. The agenda has been updated and is included below (and is posted on the MEPAG meeting website <http://mepag.nasa.gov/meetings.cfm?expand=m32>). The meeting is open to all members of the planetary exploration community, including our international colleagues. To join us:

- Using any Internet browser, please go to <http://ac.arc.nasa.gov/mepag>.
- If you are a NASA employee, you can use your NDC credentials to login (just like NASA webmail).
- Otherwise: Choose to *Enter as a Guest*, type your full name and affiliation in the field (helpful for our records), and click *Enter Room*.
- You should then see the webcast, and hear presentations via your computer speakers.
- If you prefer to listen over your phone, mute your computer speakers (click the **green** speaker icon within Adobe Connect; it should turn white) and call: **1-844-467-4685**, Passcode: **312989#**. Note that you cannot speak via this line (it will be globally muted).
- To ask a question or make a comment, please use the chat room. We will collect and relay questions to each speaker at the end of their

Start	Duration	Title/topic	Presenter
8:30	0:30	Past and ongoing MEPAG activities	J. Johnson, MEPAG Chair
9:00	0:45	MEP status and plans	J. Watzin
9:45	0:45	Mars science and Mars science activities	M. Meyer
10:30	0:10	InSight report	B. Banerdt
10:40	0:15	Questions	
10:55	0:15	Report on the Biosignature Preservation & Detection in Mars Analog Environments Conference	L. Hays, D. Beaty
11:10	0:10	Preliminary Report on the Sixth International Conference on Mars Polar Science & Exploration	I. Smith
11:20	0:15	Report on survey of Participating Scientist programs	L. Prockter
11:35	0:15	Humans to Mars update	B. Bussey
11:50	0:30	Upcoming MEPAG activities	J. Johnson, R. Zurek, D. Beaty
12:20	0:10	Wrap-up	J. Johnson
12:30	--	Adjourn	

Welcome new MEPAG Executive and Goals Committee Members!

MEPAG and MPO would like to welcome Drs. G. Scott Hubbard and Ben Bussey (Ex Officio) to the Executive Committee. Drs. Sarah Stewart Johnson (Goal I), Robin Wordsworth (Goal II) and Jacob Bleacher (Goal IV) are similarly welcomed to the Goals Committee. We would also like to thank Drs. Tori Hoehler, Darlene Lim and Scott Rafkin for their participation in and service to the Goals Committee, and wish them the very best in all future endeavors.

JMARS Webinar: October 13, 2016

<https://jmars.asu.edu/webinar2016>

Ever feel like there must be an easier way to find and work with Mars remote sensing data? **Join us Thursday, October 13th from 12-2 p.m. PDT for a free online webinar and find out how JMARS can help!** Brand new to JMARS? We'll show you how to get started with global maps and how to quickly find THEMIS, CTX, CRISM, and HiRISE stamps.

Already know your way around JMARS? We'll teach you how to perform map sampling, perform HSV composites on HiRISE and CRISM images, and how to colorize your own vector shape data. Already a power user? Time to learn how you can work with SHARAD radargrams as well as the latest resources that have been added in support of proposing landing sites for a 2035 human mission to Mars!

Questions about this event, or JMARS in general, as well as suggestions for webinar topics can be sent to help@jmars.asu.edu. See the JMARS website (<https://jmars.asu.edu/>) for Adobe Connect information.

Mars 2020 Rover Third Landing Site Selection Workshop

February 8-10, 2017 in the Pasadena, CA area

Dates are set for the Mars 2020 Rover, Third Landing Site Selection Workshop (LSSW3). This workshop will focus on downselection from the eight landing sites currently being considered. Information on the workshop, including location, will be posted on <http://marsnext.jpl.nasa.gov>, as it becomes available. NASA employees and contractors (including JPLers): remember that this is a conference and requires forecasting, which we strongly recommend doing by October 15, 2016, to aid with planning.

Near-term Due Dates (next three months)

Due	Project
October 14	Sixth International Workshop on the Mars Atmosphere: Modelling and Observations. Abstract deadline
November 7	Academies' Search for Life Workshop / A Workshop on Searching for Life Across Space and Time, Poster Abstract deadline
December 1	IEEE Aerospace Conference. Registration deadline.

Upcoming Conferences and Workshops

Fourth Quarter, 2016		
	October 6, 2016 ONLINE	MEPAG Meeting #32 http://mepag.nasa.gov/meetings.cfm?expand=m32
	October 10-14, 2016 Moscow, RUSSIA	The Seventh Moscow Solar System Symposium (7M-S3) http://ms2016.cosmos.ru/ , NCTS# 25833-17
	October 13, 2016 ONLINE	JMARS Webinar
	October 16-21, 2016 Pasadena, CA, USA	Joint DPS-EPSC Meeting http://aas.org/meetings/dps48 , NCTS# 25341-17
	October 19, 2016	2016 ExoMars (TGO and EDM) Arrival at Mars
	October 24-27, 2016 Pasadena, CA, USA	3rd International Workshop on Instrumentation for Planetary Missions http://www.hou.usra.edu/meetings/ipm2016/ , NCTS# 25600-17

Fourth Quarter, 2016

	November 1-3, 2016 Colombia, MD, USA	Annual Meeting of the Lunar Exploration Analysis Group http://www.hou.usra.edu/meetings/leag2016/ , NCTS# 27103-17
	November 29-December 1, 2016 Washington DC, USA	VEXAG Meeting #14 http://www.lpi.usra.edu/vexag/meetings/upcoming/ , NCTS# 24529-17
	December 5-6, 2016 Irvine, CA, USA	Academies' Search for Life Workshop/A Workshop on Searching for Life Across Space and Time http://SearchingForLife.eventbrite.com , For those unable to attend in person, the live workshop webcast will be available at: https://livestream.com/accounts/15221519/events/6098927
	December 12-16, 2016 San Francisco, CA, USA	AGU Fall Meeting http://fallmeeting.agu.org/2016/ , NCTS# 25415-17

2017

	January 11-13, 2017 Tucson, AZ, USA	16th Meeting of the NASA Small Bodies Assessment Group
	January 11-13, 2017 Boulder, CO, USA	The Dust, Atmosphere and Plasma Environment of the Moon and Small Bodies Workshop http://impact.colorado.edu/dap_meeting.html
	January 17-20, 2017 Granada, SPAIN	Sixth International Workshop on the Mars Atmosphere: Modelling and Observations http://www-mars.lmd.jussieu.fr/granada2017/ , NCTS# 26193-17
	February 8-10, 2017 Pasadena, CA, USA	Mars 2020 Rover Third Landing Site Workshop http://marsnext.jpl.nasa.gov
	March 4-11, 2017 Big Sky, MT, USA	IEEE Aerospace Conference https://www.aeroconf.org/ , NCTS# 26165-17
	March 20-24, 2017 The Woodlands, TX, USA	Lunar and Planetary Science Conference http://www.hou.usra.edu/meetings/lpsc2017/ , NCTS# 26280-17
	March 28-30, 2017 Washington, DC, USA	NRC's Committee on Astrobiology and Planetary Science (CAPS)
	April 24-27, 2017 Phoenix, AZ, USA	Astrobiology Science Conference http://www.hou.usra.edu/meetings/abscicon2017/
	May 15-19, 2017 Boulder, CO, USA	International Conference on Mars Aeronomy http://lasp.colorado.edu/meetings/marsaeronomy2017/index.php , NCTS# 26278-17
	May 16-19, 2017 St. George, UT, USA	Fifth International Planetary Dunes Workshop http://www.hou.usra.edu/meetings/dunes2017/
	June 13-15, 2017 Greenbelt, MD, USA	17th Meeting of the NASA Small Bodies Assessment Group http://www.lpi.usra.edu/sbag/
	July 13-15, 2017 Houston, TX, USA	Dust in the Atmosphere of Mars and Its Impact on the Human Exploration of Mars http://www.hou.usra.edu/meetings/marsdust2017/
	September 13-14, 2017 Washington, DC, USA	NRC's Committee on Astrobiology and Planetary Science (CAPS)

Seasons on Mars

	MY33	MY34	MY35
Start of Northern Spring / L_s 0	6/18/2015	5/05/2017	3/23/2019
Start of Northern Summer / L_s 90	1/03/2016	11/20/2017	10/08/2019
Start of Northern Autumn / L_s 180	7/04/2016	5/22/2018	4/08/2020
Start of Northern Winter / L_s 270	11/28/2016	10/16/2018	9/02/2020

Special holidays to consider when scheduling conferences/workshops/meetings

Good Friday	3/25/2016	4/14/2017	3/30/2018	4/19/2019
Rosh Hashanah	10/03/2016	9/21/2017	9/10/2018	9/30/2019
Yom Kippur	10/12/2016	9/30/2017	9/19/2018	10/09/2019
(Note that Jewish holidays start at sundown the previous evening)				
Thanksgiving Day, Canada	10/10/2016	10/09/2017	10/08/2018	10/14/2019
Thanksgiving Day, U.S.	11/24/2016	11/23/2017	11/22/2018	11/28/2019
Christmas Day	12/25/2016	12/25/2017	12/25/2018	12/25/2019

Editors

Meredith Cosby	Meredith.A.Cosby@jpl.nasa.gov	818-354-0226
Serina Diniega	Serina.Diniega@jpl.nasa.gov	818-393-1487
David Beaty	David.Beaty@jpl.nasa.gov	818-354-7968
James Ashley	James.W.Ashley@jpl.nasa.gov	818-354-0860

Please send your Mars Community Announcements and calendar items for inclusion in next month's newsletter to:

Meredith Cosby at Meredith.A.Cosby@jpl.nasa.gov.

This newsletter (and all previous months') is also posted on the MEPAG website: <http://mepag.jpl.nasa.gov>

- If you wish to withdraw from the electronic mailing list this newsletter is sent out to, please send an email from your email account to mepag-removesignup@jpl.nasa.gov.
- To be added to this list and receive this monthly newsletter and other Mars Science announcements, or to update your MEPAG directory information (which contains the email list used for sending out this newsletter), please fill out the online form: <http://goo.gl/forms/WilmhPIM9V> (also linked on the MEPAG website <http://mepag.nasa.gov/>, under Updates).