

**Wednesday, March 13, 2002**  
**NRC DECADAL SURVEY TOWN HALL MEETING**  
**12:30–1:30 p.m. Salon B**

**Chairs: M. J. Belton**  
**C. Hartman**

Based on a request from NASA Headquarters, the NRC is pursuing a Decadal Survey of Solar System Exploration. Four survey panels (inner planets, giant planets, primitive bodies, and large satellites) have been holding meetings across the country, and the steering group is charged with providing (1) a “big picture” of solar system exploration, what it is, how it fits into other scientific endeavors, and why it is a compelling goal today; (2) a broad survey of the current state of knowledge of the solar system today; (3) an inventory of the top-level scientific questions that should provide a focus for solar system exploration today; and finally, (4) a prioritized list of the most promising avenues for flight investigations and supporting groundbased activities. Two other NRC groups are providing inputs to the survey on Mars exploration and Astrobiology research. Members of the panels will discuss the status and direction of the survey and some of the scientific questions that the panels consider as key. This will be the last public meeting of the survey before it concludes its work and comments from the floor are encouraged.