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OPAG Update - March 2

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Next OPAG meeting - May 1-2

We will be having the OPAG meeting May 1-2 at the Hyatt Harborside in Boston (<http://harborside.hyatt.com/hyatt/hotels/index.jsp?icamp=hyattharborsideredirect>). It's at Logan International Airport, and is a new facility. We will post a phone number and name of the block of rooms for people to make reservations on the OPAG website in the next few days. We'll also be offering early career travel grants. Stay tuned!

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Planetary Science Subcommittee of the NASA Advisory Council

... met in Tempe, AZ last week. I am posting later today the presentations given by Jim Green (PS Div. Director) and myself (on OPAG) at the OPAG website <http://www.lpi.usra.edu/opag/announcements.html>

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The Workshop on Ices, Oceans, and Fire: Satellites of the Outer Solar System Workshop August 13-15, 2007, at the Hotel Boulderado, 2115 Thirteenth Street, Boulder, Colorado.

From: James L. Green <james.green at nasa.gov>, Curt Niebur <curt.niebur at nasa.gov>, Mary Cloud <cloud at lpi.usra.edu>

Exploration of the outer solar system has revealed that these planetary satellites are quite varied. Each of these moons has experienced key processes to a different extent. The combination of their individual physical properties and chemical compositions with the varying magnitudes of the processes experienced by them is largely responsible for their evolution to their currently diverse states.

The purpose of this workshop is to bring together researchers to share their current research in the broader context of common processes and unique properties shaping the satellites of the outer solar system. Research characterizing the current state of these satellites is fundamental to our understanding of their origin and evolution.

The three-day meeting will be comprised of sessions devoted to processes common to the satellites rather than organized around specific satellites. The meeting will also provide an opportunity to convey research results in more detail than is possible at larger conferences with wider audiences. Extended time will be provided for presentations, questions, and discussion.

For more information on this exciting workshop please go to:  
<http://www.lpi.usra.edu/meetings/icysat2007/>

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#### Outer Planet Flagship Studies

The 4 Science Definition Teams are off and running. The kick-off meeting a couple weeks ago set the terms of reference and the teams are starting to meeting and discuss mission concepts for Europa, Titan, Enceladus and Ganymede/Jupiter System. The mission concept studies will be reviewed by a panel that will look at the science plus technical, management and cost factors. See the Feb OPAG update for the list of teams  
<http://www.lpi.usra.edu/opag/updates.html>

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MOP 2007: 25-29 June 2007 in San Antonio, TX

The Magnetospheres of the Outer Planets (MOP) meeting is organized to share recent scientific results and foster in depth discussions on this intriguing topic. The next meeting will be held 25-29 June 2007 in San Antonio, TX at the Menger Hotel. This historic hotel is next to the Alamo in the center of downtown and is near the famous River Walk. We encourage papers regarding magnetospheric dynamics, auroral processes, magnetosphere-ionosphere-atmosphere coupling, and solar wind interactions. Papers on related topics such as internal planetary fields and gas giant, satellite, and ring atmospheres are also encouraged (among others). Questions spurred by recent Cassini results regarding the nature of Saturn's internal field, the source(s) of nitrogen in Saturn's magnetosphere, and the role of Enceladus' water geyser in the Saturnian system are sure to be prominent topics of discussion, as will new observations of the Jovian system in late February 2007 by the New Horizons spacecraft and related earth-based campaigns. Dr. Kurt Retherford is the MOP 2007 organizer (kretherford@swri.edu, 210-522-3809), and the Southwest Research Institute (SwRI) is the host institute (contact lead administrator Leah Roberson at lroberson@swri.edu). For more information see <http://mop.space.swri.edu>. MOP 2007: 25-29 June 2007  
Abstracts Due: 13 April 2007

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Planetary Atmospheres Workshop Nov 6-7, 2007

Phil Crane (NASA HQ) is organizing a workshop on planetary atmospheres that will take place the 2 days before the Nov. OPAG meeting - in the same hotel - near APL, Laurel, MD. We will post specific information about the agenda and purpose of the workshop in the next OPAG update.

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