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OPAG Update - March 17

Previous Updates and other OPAG material can be found at <http://www.lpi.usra.edu/opag/>

- 1 - Cassini Data Analysis Program
- 2 - May OPAG meeting
- 3 - International Planetary Probe Workshop
- 4 - Exoplanet Taskforce White Papers

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Preparation for Cassini DAP NOIs

ROSES lists the Cassini DAP as C.10 and the date for NOI = 4/5/07 and the Proposal deadline as 5/30/07 and states, "NASA's organ for archiving and distributing Cassini data is the Planetary Data System (PDS). In accordance with the approved mission data-archiving plan, Cassini data is archived in the PDS in three-month increments, nine to twelve months after it is received on Earth. PDS archived Cassini data can be found at

[http://pds-atmospheres.nmsu.edu/data\\_and\\_services/atmospheres\\_data/Cassini/Cassini.html](http://pds-atmospheres.nmsu.edu/data_and_services/atmospheres_data/Cassini/Cassini.html).

Data that are otherwise in the public domain via open literature publications and other freely available sources are also eligible, but proposers are cautioned that it may not be calibrated and validated. To the extent that lack of calibration and validation may affect the scientific quality and value of the end product of the investigation, the peer reviewers may note this as a weakness."

The PDS will make a major effort to have the April 1 Cassini data delivery on line by April 5, 2007. In addition, all Huygens instrument datasets will be online by April 5 and a supporting Descent Trajectory Profile will be released in April.

On the above web site we've provided pdf files containing trajectory plans that will be helpful to non-Cassini team members in checking the existence of data and, for those of you who find the PDS challenging, a quick tutorial on dataset retrieval.

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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'll also be offering early career travel grants. Stay tuned!

The agenda is being constructed - so far, we have:

May 1 - Update from the Planetary Science Division, Reports from the "short/small" Enceladus and Titan studies at JPL, Technology for outer planet exploration

May 2 - Progress reports from the 4 outer planet mission SDTs

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International Planetary Probe Workshop

June 23-30, 2007

5th International Planetary Probe Workshop, Bordeaux, France

<http://www.rssd.esa.int/SM/IPPW/>

(We had an old link on the OPAG website - sorry)

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Exoplanet Taskforce White Papers Due April 2

The ExoPlanet Task Force (ExoPTF), an Astronomy and Astrophysics Advisory Committee (AAAC) subcommittee formed at the request of NSF and NASA, announces a call for white papers to inform their assessment of techniques and approaches for extra-solar planet detection and characterization, using both space- and ground-based facilities. The ExoPTF has been asked to recommend a 15-year strategy to detect and characterize exoplanets and planetary systems, and their formation and evolution, including specifically the identification of nearby candidate

Earth-like planets and study of their habitability. White papers may describe studies, measurements with existing facilities, new instruments, new facilities or missions, considerations from theoretical modeling, or other recommendations or information that can support the Task Force in its work as laid out in the charge.

White paper submission instructions, along with the ExoPTF charge and membership, may be found at <http://www.nsf.gov/mps/ast/exoptf.jsp>.  
Sent on behalf of the NSF-AST, Wayne Van Citters, Director