NASA’s Planetary System Science Management Operations Working group (PSS/MOWG)

R & A Programs:
Planetary Astronomy (+ IRTF)
Planetary Atmospheres (Near-Earth Objects Observation)

Regular Issues Addressed
- Mission and funding status
- Proposal pressure/success rate
- Peer review process
- Program balance
- Grant Processing
- NEO survey status (JPL NEO project office)
- Facilities support ($3.6 million from PAST for IRTF)

PSS-MOWG
- MOWGs serve as a communications conduit between NASA HQ management and the planetary science community
- acts as a “sounding board” for problems
- “early warning” of potential problems
- study issues and write “white papers” as requested by NASA management
- not tasked with providing advice (for legal reasons), so NASA can ignore our input (!)

Special Issues
- R & A Cluster Senior Review proposal (role of groundbased R&A in exploration cycle)
Special Issues

• R & A Cluster Senior Review proposal (role of R&A in mission cycle)
• Grant processing (extreme delays in PATM)
• NSPIRES - new procedures
• Funding history (identify trends)
• Access to large telescopes (white papers)
• NEOO - Minor Planet Center needs
• NEOO move from Science Mission Directorate (SMD) to Exploration Systems Mission Directorate (ESMD)

NEOO move to ESMD

– Move made without input from community or discipline scientist Lindley Johnson.
– ESMD has added visits to NEOs to human presence in space, so thought NEOO had a more secure “home” there - we’ll see…..
– Lindley Johnson being moved to ESMD. Will work as detaillee to SMD for next 6 months.
– NEOO budget of $4 million originally carved from Planetary Astronomy will go with it.
– Lots of synergy between Planetary Astronomy and NEOO may be lost (funding of Minor Planet Center, IRTF, funding for radar observations).

2006 PSS/MOWG Membership

NASA Program Managers:
Lindley Johnson (Planetary Astronomy, NEO Observations)
Phil Crane (Planetary Atmospheres)

Current Members:
Bill Bottke, Chair (SwRI)  Steve Larson (U. Arizona)
Amanda Bosh (Lowell)  Don Yeomans (JPL)
Anne Verbiscer (U. Virginia)  Tim Dowling (U. Louisville)
Elliot Young (SwRI)  Tom Slanger (SRI)
Jack Brandt (U. New Mexico)  Yuk Yung (Caltech)