

VEXAG Venus Exploration Goals, Objectives, and Strategies Focus Group

Buck Sharpton (LPI) – Leadership Team Chair

Leadership Team: Lori Glaze, Jim Garvin, Steve Mackwell, Kevin Baines, Gordon Chin, Sue Smrekar, Larry Exposito (or their delegates), assisted by:

Advisory Group: TBD (open to all; initially 20-25 researchers chosen by Leadership Team members.)

Charter

The Venus Exploration Goals, Objectives, and Strategies Focus Group (VEGOS) is chartered by VEXAG to engage the Venus scientific community in refining, evaluating, and prioritizing

- The science goals and underlying objectives of Venus exploration, and
- Specific exploration strategies – including geographic targets and mission approaches – needed to reach these objectives.

VEGOS will ensure broad community involvement through both web-based (including GIS, wiki, web log, and or 'list serv') applications and conventional outreach approaches. The Leadership Team is responsible for organizing and synthesizing input from the Advisory Group and the broader community of Venus researchers as well as providing community feedback, including progress reports to the Advisory Group. The Advisory Group, in turn, evaluates the goals, objectives and exploration strategies and makes appropriate recommendations. Members are expected to participate in periodic group meetings and telecons as their schedule permits.

VEGOS reports to VEXAG chairs and provides status reports during VEXAG Executive Committee meetings and telecons. It also presents its findings to the Venus community during the periodic VEXAG meetings and to the larger scientific community at planetary conferences and meetings as appropriate.

All interested parties are welcome to participate in the Advisory Group meetings and provide ideas and opinions. New members of the Advisory Group are added by submitting a nomination letter to the chair of the Leadership Team.

VEGOS will remain active until it is terminated by a future VEXAG decision.

Deliverables

VEGOS will:

1. Establish a balanced, community endorsed set of science goals and objectives that will enhance interests in and opportunities for further exploration of Venus.
2. Define specific sites, mission approaches, and other parameters as deemed appropriate, that are needed to maximize the science return from current and future Venus missions.
3. Communicate activities and plans in reports, presentations, and other appropriate formats.