

Venus Newsletter#14 October2020

- 1) VEXAG 2020 Annual Meeting - November 16-17, 2020
- 2) Fall AGU 2020 Special Sessions
- 3) Habitable Worlds 2021 Conference - February 22-26 2021

1) VEXAG 2020 Annual Meeting - November 16-17, 2020

Venus Exploration Analysis Group (VEXAG) Meeting #18 will be held virtually November 16–17, 2020.

Registration/Intent to Attend - If you plan to attend the virtual meeting, please submit the [Meeting Registration Form](#) before November 2, 2020. Registered attendees will receive an e-mail from Houston Meeting Info prior to the meeting with virtual connection information. The number of registrations for this virtual meeting is limited to 200. Registration will close when the maximum is reached or on November 2, 2020, whichever occurs first.

Program and Presenter Information

[Detailed Program and Abstracts](#)

[Author Index](#)

Each author scheduled to give a presentation will receive an email with virtual meeting information. Please check the author index to see where presentations have been scheduled.

Program Committee

Darby Dyar, *Planetary Science Institute, Mount Holyoke College*

Noam Izenberg, *JHU Applied Physics Laboratory*

Megan Andsell, *NASA Headquarters*

Natasha Johnson, *NASA Goddard*

Jennifer Jackson, *California Institute of Technology*

Jim Cutts, *Jet Propulsion Laboratory*

Tommy Thompson, *Jet Propulsion Laboratory*

Tim Bryce, *Jet Propulsion Laboratory*

2) Fall AGU 2020 Special Sessions

2A) Late Breaking Phosphine on Venus session **Abstract submission OPEN to 11/11/2020!**

2B) Preparing for the Next Venus Missions I (P022) *Wednesday, 9 December 2020*

2C) Preparing for the Next Venus Missions II (P029) *Wednesday, 9 December 2020*

2C) Preparing for the Next Venus Missions III Posters (P026) *Wednesday, 9 December 2020*

2D) Atmospheres, Climates, and Habitability of Terrestrial Planets in and Beyond the Solar System I (P018)

2 E) Exoplanets in Our Backyard 1.5 (INV14)

Phosphine in the Venusian Atmosphere: Observations and Implications

The recent observations suggesting the possible presence of phosphine on Venus, previously considered as a potential biosignature for exoplanetary atmospheres, presents a challenge for existing models of atmospheric chemistry and possibly supports the case for an aerial ecosystem in an otherwise hyperacidic, oxidizing atmosphere. In this session, we invite presentations regarding current and past observations and interpretations of phosphine in the Venusian atmosphere; surface-atmosphere interactions and chemistry relevant to the phosphine cycle; design considerations for upcoming spacecraft and instruments; and other work inspired by these recent events.

Abstract submission deadline: November 11, 2020 (11:59 ET)

Session listing: <https://www.agu.org/Fall-Meeting/Pages/Present/Sessions#5>

We hope to see you there!

-Alexander Thelen, David Grinspoon, Sanjay Limaye, Colin Wilson, Arielle Moullet and Sushil Atreya

Additional Venus and related Sessions (Times in Eastern Standard UTC-8):5

Preparing for the Next Venus Missions I (P022) *Wednesday, 9 December 2020. 07:00-08:00*

Preparing for the Next Venus Missions II (P029) *Wednesday, 9 December 2020 10:00-11:00*

Preparing for the Next Venus Missions III Posters (P026) *Wednesday, 9 December 2020 07:00-23:59*

Atmospheres, Climates, and Habitability of Terrestrial Planets in and Beyond the Solar System I (P018) Tuesday 8 December, 19:00-20:00

Exoplanets in Our Backyard 1.5 (INV14) Wednesday 16 December, 10:00-16:00

Additional Venus presentations in several other sessions - search for Venus in the meeting website: <https://agu.confex.com/agu/fm20/meetingapp.cgi/Home/0>

3) Habitable Worlds 2021 Conference - February 22-26 2021

In coordination with the AAS, the Nexus for Exoplanet System Science (NExSS) is pleased to announce the AAS Topical Conference: Habitable Worlds 2021.

The goal of the workshop is to identify opportunities and obstacles to cross-disciplinary collaboration on the questions of what makes planets habitable, and life on them detectable. The culminating event will be a synchronous, **online conference 22-26 February 2021**.

In preparation for the meeting in February, we have planned three ice-breaking, community-wide, **collaborative online activities 1-31 October 2020**, designed to promote interdisciplinary communication and to set the agenda for the conference. These activities will generate input from the fields of astronomy/astrophysics, planetary sciences, and Earth sciences, and are open (after a free signup) to all who wish to participate. The activities are mostly about getting the different communities on the same page, and involve very little time commitment.

For more information on the Conference please see: <https://aas.org/meetings/aastcs8/habitable>

To directly sign up for the free Pre-meeting Icebreaker activities please see: <http://nexss.info/community/workshops/habworlds2021>

Your expertise from *your* discipline is needed to help shape the future study of habitability and detectability of life on exoplanets!

We look forward to seeing you!

Steve Desch, Arizona State University (Chair)
Dorian Abbot, University of Chicago
Daniel Apai, University of Arizona
Paul Byrne, North Carolina State University
Shannon Curry, University of California, Berkeley
Dawn Gelino, Caltech/IPAC-NASA Exoplanet Science Institute
Hilairy Hartnett, Arizona State University
Natalie Hinkel, Southwest Research Institution
Seth Jacobsen, Michigan State University
Hannah Jang-Condell, NASA HQ
Paul Kalas, University of California, Berkeley
Stephen Kane, University of California, Riverside
Aki Roberge, NASA HQ
Cayman Unterborn, Arizona State University