Venus Newsletter #15 November 2020

1) VEXAG 2020 Annual Meeting Recap
2) Call for VEXAG Steering Committee and SAWs looking for new members
3) Fall AGU 2020 Sessions and Events of Venus interest
4) Habitable Worlds 2021 Abstracts open (Due 12/8/2020)
5) Joining the Venus Newsletter Listserve Service

1111111111111111111111111111111111111111111111111111111111111111111111111

1) VEXAG 2020 Annual Meeting Recap

A tremendous thank you to the international Venus community for making the 2020 Annual VEXAG Meeting, conducted entirely virtually, a tremendous success. Day 1 saw a peak of 145 participants online, and an average throughout the day of over 120. Day 2 saw an average of over 100 and peak near 120. Meeting presentations, Posters and abstracts are available at the VEXAG website: https://www.lpi.usra.edu/vexag/meetings/vexag-18/

The Tuesday Afternoon session had a broad discussion of meeting findings. All participants and community members are invited to comment on that discussion and provide their input. Please email the VEXAG Chair and Deputy Chair, at mdyar@mtholyoke.edu, Noam.Izenberg@jhuapl.edu with your thoughts.

2222222222222222222222222222222222222222222222222222222222222222222

2) Call for VEXAG Steering Committee and SAWs looking for new members

VEXAG (NASA's Venus Exploration Analysis Group) is seeking four new volunteers for the VEXAG Steering Committee to replace Members at Large, who have successfully completed their service to the Venus community. New Steering Committee members will start in January and July 2021 for terms that will run for three years.

Nominations and self-nominations are welcome, and will need a short statement of interest and vision for Venus, and a CV. Please submit these to Darby Dyar and Noam Izenberg , VEXAG Chair and Deputy Chair, at mdyar@mtholyoke.edu, Noam.Izenberg@jhuapl.edu; no later than Friday, December 4, 2020.

In addition to sponsoring regular and topical meetings, VEXAG activities for the next three years are expected to focus on supporting the 2023-2032 Planetary Decadal Survey and fostering the next generation of Venus researchers. Volunteers for VEXAG's Early Career Venus Scholars Focus Group are particularly welcome.

VEXAG (http://www.lpi.usra.edu/vexag/) is a community-based forum established in July 2005 to assess scientific priorities and strategies for NASA's exploration of Venus.

VEXAG SCIENCE ANALYSIS/ASSESSMENT WORKGROUPS (SAWs) are open to community interest

SAW 7 - Exploration and Instrument Technology is looking for community members interested in Venus technology, laboratory, and test facility development - contact jeffreybalcerski@oai.org

SAW 8 - Seminar Series is getting ready to start monthly presentations in December 2020 (1st w**ill be December 10, 11 am ET "*The** Enduring Mysteries of Venus, and Why It's Time to Go Back*" and continue the 2nd Thursday of each month. The SAW is open to new members and topic suggestions - contact jeffreybalcerski@oai.org

3333333333333333333333333333333333333333333333333333333333333333333

3) Fall AGU 2020 Sessions and Events of Venus interest

??/12 Late Breaking Phosphine on Venus session (info TBD)

8/12 Atmospheres, Climates, and Habitability of Terrestrial Planets in and Beyond the Solar System I *(P018) Tuesday 8 December, 19:00-20:00*

9/12 Preparing for the Next Venus Missions I (P022) *Wednesday, 9 December 2020. 07:00-08:00*

9/12 Preparing for the Next Venus Missions II (P029) *Wednesday, 9 December 2020 10:00-11:00*

9/12 Preparing for the Next Venus Missions III Posters (P026) *Wednesday, 9 December 2020 07:00-23:59*

14/12 AGU Media Roundtable Dec. 14, 2020 at 1pm EST Life in the clouds of Venus? Lessons learned from studying life in Earth's atmosphere

16/12 Exoplanets in Our Backyard 1.5 (INV14) Wednesday 16 December, 10:00-16:00

4444444444444444444444444444444444444444444444444444444444444444444

4) Habitable Worlds 2021 Abstracts open (Due 12/8/2020)

Abstract submission and Registration for the Habitable Worlds 2021 workshop is open! If you have not done so already, **please submit your abstract by the December 8 deadline.**

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 three ice-breaking, community-wide, collaborative online activities, designed to promote interdisciplinary communication and to set the agenda for the conference. These activities are generating input from the fields of astronomy/astrophysics, planetary sciences, heliophysics, 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. You do NOT have to participate in the pre-meeting activities to fully participate in the meeting in February.

For more information, and to register and submit your abstract for the Conference please see: https://aas.org/meetings/aastcs8/habitable

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! Habitable Worlds 2021 SOC

555555555555555555555555555555555555555555555555555555555555555555555555555

5) Joining the Venus Newsletter Listserve Service

The Venus list serve reaches over 500 members of the Venus community. If you or someone you know wishes to join, email Darby Dyar: mdyar@mtholyoke.edu