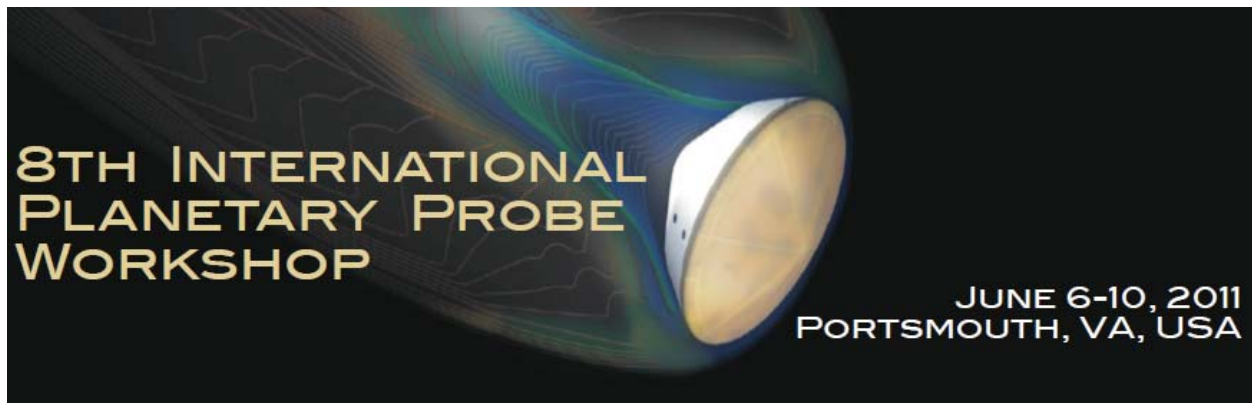


FIRST ANNOUNCEMENT



Short Course: Atmospheric Flight Systems Technologies
June 4-5, 2011

<http://www.planetaryprobe.org>

Join us for the 8th International Planetary Probe Workshop (IPPW-8) in Portsmouth, Virginia on June 6-10, 2011. The goal of the workshop is to bring together scientists, technologists, engineers, mission designers, and policy makers interested in the exploration of Solar System atmospheres and surfaces using atmospheric entry and descent probes, aerial vehicles, surface landers, rovers and penetrators. The workshop covers the technological challenges and scientific opportunities associated with entry, descent, landing and flight in planetary atmospheres, and surface science and mobility.

The 8th workshop will build on the success of the previous workshops to promote international cooperation in probe missions to solar system bodies, and to provide the opportunity for students – the next generation of planetary explorers – as well as spacecraft engineers, technologists, mission planners, and policy makers to participate in these endeavours.

The preliminary list of session topics includes: outlook for probe missions; science and technology of probes, landers and penetrators; sensors; entry, descent and landing; site selection, terminal descent and trajectory reconstruction; sample return capsules, aerial mobility, and drag, aerobraking and aerocapture techniques.

The space community is engaged in expanding our knowledge of the Moon, planets, their satellites, asteroids and comets. 2011 sees: Launch of the *Mars Science Laboratory*, continued operation of the *Mars Exploration Rover* mission, and the *Philae* comet lander more than half way to its destination. NASA's Space Technology programs will be invigorated, and the Planetary Decadal Survey will be released. Studies and proposals underway include: various lunar landers and penetrators; *Venera-D*; plans for Mars exploration beyond 2016 (including network missions and sample return), and for missions within the *New Frontiers*, *Discovery* and *Cosmic Vision* programs. We can also expect further interpretation of data from previous missions including *Hayabusa*, *Huygens*, and *Phoenix*.

In addition to the five-day workshop, a two-day short course is normally held on a related topic during the preceding weekend. The topic selected for IPPW-8 is "Atmospheric Flight Systems Technologies" (June 4-5, 2011).

The long-standing goals of the International Planetary Probe Workshops are:

- **To Review** the state-of-the-art in science, mission design, engineering implementation and technologies for the *in situ* robotic exploration of Solar System bodies.
- **To Share** ideas, mission opportunities, and emerging technologies to enable future mission success.
- **To Serve** as a forum for discussions on innovative methodologies and techniques for upcoming probe and surface science missions.
- **To Attract** early career scientists and engineers to the field of entry, descent and flight in planetary atmospheres, and surface science, exploration and mobility on other worlds, enabling them to learn from experienced researchers and practitioners.
- **To Foster** international collaboration among the communities of scientists, engineers, and mission designers interested in planetary probes and landers.

Student Program

Students play an important role in the International Planetary Probe Workshops and are strongly encouraged to attend and participate in all workshop programs. To help defray the costs of attending the workshop and short course, a limited number of student scholarships are available.

Priority will be given to those students who are presenting material at the workshop. A program of student social events, activities, and events will be included in the workshop schedule. For more information, please contact Dr. Stephen M. Ruffin, Georgia Institute of Technology, stephen.ruffin@aerospace.gatech.edu.

Al Seiff Award

The Alvin Seiff Award is annually bestowed upon an individual by the International Organizing Committee of the International Planetary Probe Workshop. The Award recognizes an individual's outstanding contributions to the technology, science or mission planning for the advancement of knowledge of planets or moons in the solar system by the use of probes during their entry, descent, landing, and/or surface operations. The award also recognizes the individual's mentoring of younger engineers and scientists, traits are those for which Seiff was legendary in his pioneering of our field.

More information on the Al Seiff award program, and nomination forms may be found on the IPPW-8 website: <http://www.planetaryprobe.org>.

IPPW-8 Preliminary Schedule

Second Announcement	14 January 2011
Abstract deadline	28 February 2011
Al Seiff Award nomination deadline	28 February 2011
Student scholarship application deadline	28 February 2011
Early registration deadline	28 February 2011
Selection of papers/posters	18 March 2011
Selection of student scholarships	18 March 2011
Third Announcement	18 March 2011
Final Announcement	6 May 2011
Deadline for proceedings contributions	TBD
Short Course: Atmospheric Flight Systems Technologies	4-5 June 2011
IPPW-8	6-10 June 2011

For More Information: ippw8@planetaryprobe.org