Dear Members,

We want to update you on recent changes in the Division (including the election of new officers), announce this year’s Division awardees and new programs, and preview the Division’s activities and sessions at the GSA Annual Meeting in October.

Hopefully, I will see many of you at the PGD Business Meeting on Tuesday, October 7, from 12:15-1:15pm in the George R. Brown Convention Center Room 310AD, or at the PGD Awards Reception from 5:30-7:15pm in the same room.

Remember, the first 50 PGD members attending the Business Meeting will receive a FREE BOX LUNCH! There is a vegetarian option. No need to worry about scrounging for lunch; it’s on us so you can enjoy the meeting! Following the Business Meeting will be the G.K. Gilbert session honoring Phil Christensen.

See you in Houston!
Dave
New PGD Officers for 2008-2009

In case you haven’t heard, we elected a full slate of new PGD officers for the next year. Here are your new officers:

- **Chair**: Louise Prockter, JHU Applied Physics Laboratory
- **First Vice-Chair**: Jayne Aubele, New Mexico Museum of Natural History
- **Second Vice-Chair**: David Williams, Arizona State University
- **Secretary-Treasurer**: Robert Anderson, NASA Jet Propulsion Laboratory
- **Past Chair**: Herbert Frey, NASA Goddard Space Flight Center

2008 PGD Awardees

The PGD administers several annual awards for planetary geologist and students. This year’s winners include:

► **G.K. Gilbert Award: Phillip Christensen, Arizona State University**

The award is named for G. K. Gilbert, who 100 years ago clearly recognized the importance of a planetary perspective in solving terrestrial geologic problems. Gilbert was a master of both planetary and terrestrial geology; many of his papers bear careful study today. The G. K. Gilbert Award is usually presented annually to career research scientists for outstanding contributions to the solution of fundamental problems in planetary geology in the broadest sense, which includes geochemistry, mineralogy, petrology, geophysics, geologic mapping, and remote sensing. Such contributions may consist either of a single outstanding publication or a series of publications that have had great influence in the field. The award, consisting of an engraved plaque and an appropriate certificate, is presented during a Division-sponsored technical session at the Annual Meeting. The theme of the technical session will be related to the Award Recipient's field(s) of study. The nomination deadline for the G. K. Gilbert Award is September 1 of each year. Nominations should be sent directly to the Chair of the Gilbert Selection Committee. Electronic submissions are preferred. Nominations for the 2009 award should be sent to Dr. Aileen Yingst yingsta@uwgb.edu by September 1, 2008.

► **Stephen Dwornik Best Student Presentation Awards (39th Lunar Planetary Science Conference):**

**Best Oral Presentation:** Leah H. Roach, Brown University, “Constraints on the rate of sulfate phase changes in Valles Marineris interior layered deposits”

**Honorable Mention:** Joshua T.S. Cahill, University of Hawaii, "Radiative transfer modeling of geophysically targeted lunar impact crater central peaks"

**Best Poster Presentation:** Brian C. Hahn, SUNY-Stony Brook, "Martian Surface Heat Production and Crustal Heat Flow from Mars Odyssey Gamma-Ray Spectrometry"

**Honorable Mention:** Melissa K. Bunte, Arizona State University, "Geologic Mapping of the Zal Region of Io"

**Honorable Mention:** Stephanie Brown, MIT, “Predicting Mercury's Ancient Crustal Composition”

The Dwornik Award was started in 1991 with a generous endowment by Dr. Stephen E. Dwornik, who wished to encourage U.S. students to become involved with NASA and planetary science. The Award consists of a plaque and a $500 check, and is given for the best student
presentations (poster and oral) at the annual Lunar and Planetary Science Conference (LPSC) hosted by the Lunar and Planetary Institute and NASA Johnson Space Center in Houston, Texas. Students may submit abstracts for consideration of the award to the annual LPSC. The student must be first author on the abstract, and must be a United States citizen. Along with the abstract, the student must also complete an application form and have it signed by their dissertation or research advisor. The signed form must be mailed to the Lunar and Planetary Institute in time to arrive before the LPSC abstract deadline (typically early January of each year). (PLEASE NOTE: This is the case even if the associated abstract was submitted electronically.) The form and instructions can be found on the LPSC registration site. The LPSC meetings site is at http://www.lpi.usra.edu/meetings/.

► Meteoritic Society/GSA Pellas – Ryder Best Student Paper Award: Mathieu Touboul


The Pellas-Ryder Award for the Best Student Paper in Planetary Sciences is granted annually at the discretion of the Meteoritical Society Council and the Officers of the Planetary Geology Division of the GSA on the recommendation of a Selection Committee of authorities in the field of Planetary Science. The Award, consisting of a plaque and $500, is limited to undergraduate and graduate students who are first authors of a paper published in peer-reviewed scientific journals during a specific calendar year. The first author must have been a registered student at a degree awarding institution at the time the paper was submitted to the publishing journal. Planetary science papers published in peer-reviewed scientific journals published in English only will be considered for this award. The deadline for nominations is January 31 each year. For more information send an e-mail to Hardersen@space.edu or visit http://www.unb.ca/passc/GSA/Awards.html#anchor22281.

► Eugene Shoemaker Award for Student Research (impact cratering studies): TBD

The Eugene M. Shoemaker Impact Cratering Award is for undergraduate or graduate students of any nationality, working in any country, in the disciplines of geology, geophysics, geochemistry, astronomy, or biology. The award, which will include $2500, is to be applied for the study of impact craters, either on Earth or on the other solid bodies in the solar system, which areas of study may include but shall not necessarily be limited to impact cratering processes, the bodies (asteroidal or cometary) that make the impacts, or the geological, chemical or biological results of impact cratering. The deadline for applications is typically the first week of September. This year’s deadline is September 12, 2008. Additional details about the award can be found at: http://www.lpi.usra.edu/science/kring/Awards/Shoemaker_Award/index.html

Changes to PGD Programs

Over the course of the last year, the PGD officers have discussed several changes to the slate of programs that we have to support the division and its members. One that we have implemented is a new PGD student travel grants program, which we brought online for the 2008 Annual Meeting. Students who have submitted a first-authored abstract to the Annual Meeting are eligible to submit a travel grant application and budget justification to attend the AM. We are providing two grants of $500 for partial support. Full details and the application are on the PGD website at http://www.unb.ca/passc/GSA/index.html (scroll down that page to the section on student travel grants.)
Schedule of Events: 2008 GSA Annual Meeting, 5-9 October, Houston, TX

Events of interest to Planetary Geology Division members are scheduled from beginning to end of the 2008 GSA Annual Meeting. In addition to the following list, see Planetary Geology Division events at http://gsa.confex.com/gsa/2008AM/finalprogram/. Information about technical sessions and events for GSA and for the other societies jointly sponsoring the meeting is also available at http://a-c-s.confex.com/crops/2008am/webprogram/start.html.

**Planetary Geology Division Booth**
Exhibit Hall, Booth # 118
Open Sunday (Oct. 5): 7:00pm-9:00pm, Monday (Oct. 6): 9:00am-6:00pm, Tuesday (Oct. 7): 9:00am-12:00pm and 1:30pm-5:00pm, Wednesday (Oct. 8): 9:00am-2:00pm.

**Sunday, 5 October 2008**

Session No. 214  Sunday, 5 October 2008
8:00 AM-12:00 PM, George R. Brown Convention Center: 310AD
T99. The Geology of Small Volcanic Vents and Their Associated Vent Fields throughout the Solar System

Session No. 215  Sunday, 5 October 2008
8:00 AM-12:00 PM, George R. Brown Convention Center: 342CF
T101. Geological and Geophysical Remote Sensing Applications for Earth, the Moon, and Mars

Session No. 243  Sunday, 5 October 2008
1:30 PM-4:45 PM, George R. Brown Convention Center: 352DEF
P6. Return to the Moon: A New Era of Lunar Exploration

**Pardee Keynote Symposium**

Session No. 272  Sunday, 5 October 2008
1:30 PM-4:45 PM, George R. Brown Convention Center: 310AD
T102. Water-Rock Interaction on Mars: Spacecraft Data, Meteorites, Models, and Analogs

**Monday, 6 October 2008**

Session No. 310  Monday, 6 October 2008
8:00 AM-12:00 PM, George R. Brown Convention Center: 310AD
T96. Planetary Pummeling: Cataclysmic Bombardment of the Solar System as Catastrophe, Catalyst, Cauldron, and Crucible

Session No. 370  Monday, 6 October 2008
1:30 PM-5:30 PM, George R. Brown Convention Center: 310AD
T110. Analog Sites and Field Exercises for Training Planetary Field Geologists

Session No. 318  Monday, 6 October 2008
8:00 AM-6:00 PM, George R. Brown Convention Center: Exhibit Hall E

**Planetary Geology (Posters)**
Authors will be present from 4pm to 6pm
Tuesday, 7 October 2008

Session No. 467 Tuesday, 7 October 2008
8:00 AM-12:00 PM, George R. Brown Convention Center: 310AD
T104. The Role of Field Geology and Geophysics in the Return to the Moon (Joint with FEAT)

Session No. 482 Tuesday, 7 October 2008
8:00 AM-6:00 PM, George R. Brown Convention Center: Exhibit Hall E
T97. Terrestrial Impact Structures: Origin, Structure, and Evolution (Posters)

Session No. 531 Tuesday, 7 October 2008
1:30 PM-5:30 PM, George R. Brown Convention Center: 342CF
T97. Terrestrial Impact Structures: Origin, Structure, and Evolution

Tuesday, 7 October 2008
12:15 PM-1:15 PM, George R. Brown Convention Center: 310AD
GSA Planetary Geology Division Business Meeting
***FREE BOX LUNCH FOR FIRST 50 PGD MEMBERS ATTENDING***

Session No. 530 Tuesday, 7 October 2008
1:30 PM-5:30 PM, George R. Brown Convention Center: 310AD
T95. Mineralogic & Petrologic Mapping of Planetary Surfaces:
The G.K. Gilbert Award Session

Tuesday, 7 October 2008
5:45 PM-7:15 PM, George R. Brown Convention Center: 310AD
GSA Planetary Geology Division Awards Reception (with Cash Bar & Munchies)

Wednesday, 8 October 2008

Session No. 573 Wednesday, 8 October 2008
8:00 AM-12:00 PM, George R. Brown Convention Center: 310AD
T105. Preparations for the New Era of Lunar Science: Laboratory Measurements and New Insights into the Moon

Session No. 609 Wednesday, 8 October 2008
1:30 PM-5:30 PM, George R. Brown Convention Center: 310AD
T106. Current Research Issues in Lunar Stratigraphy

Thursday, 9 October 2008

Session No. 635 Thursday, 9 October 2008
8:00 AM-12:00 PM, George R. Brown Convention Center: 310AD
T108. Living on a Dusty Moon

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