



Planetary Geosciences and Space Exploration

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Dear Colleagues,

Numerous planetary and space missions have marked our lives through the last decades. Since the foundation of Astrogeology in the early sixties, it is a fact that geology and geosciences have become crucial not only for a better understanding of our solar system (including the Earth), but also for obtaining unique information regarding the origin and evolution of the Moon, the characterization of natural resources in Near-Earth Space, the assessment of the habitability conditions of Mars and other planetary bodies, impact craters and events, *etc.* Advances over recent years have come from comparative planetology, large-scale geological and geodynamic studies, improvements of analytical methods for *in-situ*, planetary mineralogical, and geochemical analyses, computerization and imaging enhancement techniques; amazing information from asteroidal, lunar, and mars meteorites, and the use of terrestrial analogs and experimental tests using planetary chambers, among others.

Specifically, this Special Issue aims to provide an outlet for the rapid and widely accessible publication of peer-reviewed studies concerning the progress of geosciences towards space, of reviews that concern the state of the art and which suggest ways forward, of highlights regarding new findings (and which account for that multidisciplinary approaches that are required to reach the present state of development in the planetary geosciences), and of attempts to predict the nature of future scientific, social, and cultural challenges.

Prof. Dr. Jesus Martinez-Frias
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