Submission of a Proposal for a Commission: Letter of Intent

Proposed Commission

Name of the Commission: Physical Study of Planets, Exoplanets and their Satellites

Temporary Commission code: NC-50

Proposer details

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Commission Category

Regular Commission

Parent Division: Division F Planetary Systems and Bioastronomy

Co-Proposers

First Co-Proposer

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Second Co-Proposer

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Third Co-Proposer

First Name: Leonid
Rationale

Commission replaces existing Commission: Division F Commission 16 Physical Study of Planets & Satellites

Text:

We propose to merge Commission 16 (Physical Study of Planets and Satellites) and Commission 53 (Extrasolar Planets) to form a new Commission dedicated to the physical study of planets and satellites, whether they are located in the solar system or other planetary systems.

The new Commission could potentially attain a size of about 650 members, although the intersection between the two existing Commissions is far from negligible.

Areas of expertise would include:
- the search and characterization of exoplanets and their satellites,
- the investigation of solar system planets and satellites,
- the modeling of planetary atmospheres and/or surfaces,
- laboratory work directly in support of such observational and theoretical investigations.

Work plan and milestones for the next 6 years would include:
- organization of Joint Discussions or Special Sessions at the next two General Assemblies,
- definition of scientific objectives, international programs, etc.
- setting up of potential Working Groups