

Mission Statement

I am pleased to be nominated for the position of president of Planetary Science (PS) section of AOGS. I have been attending the annual meetings of AOGS since 2008, in various capacities. Initially, I took the responsibility of co-convening the sessions on Science and Exploration of Mars at the annual meetings. These have always been active sessions in the PS section. I was selected as one of the secretaries of Planetary Science section in the year 2013. I became the main convenor of the session on Mars and Venus since 2013 annual meeting. During this year I attracted the second highest number of abstracts amongst all sections. In the year 2014, again my session on Mars and Venus was amongst the top sessions. In the 2015 general elections, I was elected as the President of PS section.

Since its inception, the society has gained recognition of international standards as a platform for high quality Geosciences research in the Asian and Oceania. I would like to work towards further strengthening and expanding the sessions of the Planetary Section of the AOGS and increase the number of participants. Planetary science has become an important frontier of research in Asia-Oceania, with current and future space missions and ground based observations of planetary objects from countries of this region. For eg., India has decided to go to Mars again and then Venus. It will be my endeavour to encourage these activities and research through enhanced participation of planetary scientists in the AOGS meetings.

In the upcoming years, the Asia-Oceania region is going to witness a boom in Planetary Science exploration and research. With the help of satellites and ground based instruments, scientists will study important scientific issues in the field of geophysics, atmosphere, ionosphere, magnetosphere, solar wind interaction and escape of planetary atmospheres to outer space. Modeling will have to evolve to a higher degree of complexity to understand physical, chemical and dynamical processes of planetary sciences. With such a thrust, I would like to broaden the existing sessions of PS section to become more multidisciplinary and attract more talented scientists from different fields. I would like to expand the field of geology and meteorology of planets by attracting more papers from these areas in the PS section.

I am proud of the past and present office bearers of the PS section who have worked hard to make it an extremely successful section. With the support of you all, my vision is to take the PS section to greater heights, which will benefit scientists working in planetary sciences in the Asia-Oceania region.