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Mission Statement

My mission activity is to promote planetary section of AOGS to be a more attractive world-class organization for scientists, postdoctoral fellows, students, and resident experts by

- 1) supporting to collect and timely deliver significant information of the field of planetary science, particularly remotely acquired and returned planetary mission data, to community through newsletters, meetings, and other activities;
- 2) facilitating the community's access to the space agencies in the Asia - Oceania region;
- 3) promoting to exchange know-how for engaging the science communities to be public;
- 4) constructing appropriate relationships between the science community and the private sector.

Experience Related to Candidacy:

I am a researcher of Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA). After getting Ph.D. from Kyoto University, Japan, and then engaging in a short term post-doctoral work at the United States, I started my career at National Space Development Agency (NASDA) of Japan from 1996, to join in creating the first Japanese lunar orbiter project that was later known as SELENE (Kaguya). In 1998, I was appointed to be the chief-principal investigator (PI) of the Terrain Camera (TC), the Multiband Imager (MI) and the Spectral profiler (SP) onboard SELENE. SELENE was launched in 2007, and succeeded in collecting significant science data of the Moon. I also involved in many Japanese and international lunar and planetary missions as a Co-I or an adviser (of e.g. an asteroid sample return mission Hayabusa-2, Martian Moons Exploration MMX, and an Europe-Japan joint Jupiter Icy Moons Explorer mission JUICE).

From my experience, I can say the planetary data particularly taken by remote-sensing are often too tremendous to be analyzed. If the information about the data and its utilization is known more widely, scientific products will be more. The information is attractive for even ordinary people, particularly kids and young students. The more opportunities they touch, the more will join in the geoscience field that is interesting and helpful to improve the life of humans. There are perhaps many organization and individuals to make effort to do so. The AOGS Planetary Science section could be more involved in the efforts. I would contribute to the efforts as the PS president.