Planets from the Ground Up



Patricia Wood Dickerson American Geological Institute & Jackson School of Geosciences

Pre-Apollo Geologic Map of Moon



All Apollo landing sites, except A17, were selected on the basis of telescopic geological interpretations.

Astronomical observations have informed all satellite and human investigations of terrestrial planets.

This forum for astronomers, planetary geophysicists and geologists is far-seeing in every sense of the term.

THANK YOU TO THE CONVENORS!

Surface Exploration Readiness



On the Ground



Topography & Structural Geology, Taos Rift Valley



Geophysical Methods - Gravimetric Surveys



- L Gordon Cooper & Marty Kane read gravimeter, Apollo field training (Schaber, 2002).
- R Chris Ferguson, John Young and Barbara Morgan collect gravity and GPS data (1999 field training).

Geophysical Investigations 2005 - Taos Pueblo

Portable magnetometer Worden & Scintrex gravity meters Rock physical-property measurements









Taos Pueblo - Composite Profile



Magnetic Stripes on Mars



- Mars Global Surveyor magnetic data reflect periods of both normal and reversed polarity.
- At some stage of its evolution, the core of Mars was apparently molten, like that of Earth.
- Stripes are not aligned with the present pole of rotation, as on Earth.
- Analogous to magnetic stripes on Earth? Crustal extension and rupture?

Volcanoes -Analogous and Disparate Spheres

Atmospheres - Volatiles, climate evolution Lithospheres - Mantle/crustal structure and composition Magnetospheres - Core/mantle dynamics Biospheres - Fluids, extremophiles, astrobiology



Jemez Volcanic Complex -Hot Spring Extremophiles, Rio Grande Rift









Chemosynthesizers -Submicroscopic Life at the Vent (scanning electron microscope images)

Bacteria & other forms



6µm



6µm

800nm

Leptothrix(?) iron-bearing bacterium *Spirulina* bacterium

Nanospheres

NAC Planetary Sciences Subcommittee – Synergies & Interfaces







EMPHASIS ON SYNERGIES

Telescopic, satellite and surface observations Human and robotic investigations Science, engineering, instrument development

MAXIMIZE FEED-FORWARD AND FEEDBACK AMONG MISSIONS, PROGRAMS

ALL MISSIONS AND RESEARCH PROGRAMS ARE/ WILL BE SUBJECT TO EBBS, FLOWS, REALLOCATIONS OF FUNDS

WHETHER ORBITAL OR SURFICIAL, ROBOTIC AND/OR HUMAN, ALL MISSIONS/PROGRAMS MAY RISE OR FALL ON ISSUES OF MASS, VOLUME AND POWER

Your Mission:



Characterize the geology of Earth and discuss the origin and evolution of the planet