



Highlights:

I: FoS 4
– Mar 28, 2008

II: ASX Elections
– Apr 3, 2008

III: Yuri's Night
Celebration Party
– Apr 5, 2008

IV: Canada's first
Graduate Program
in Planetary
Science

Greetings Astronomy and Space Enthusiast,

Please see below for this month's events and news.

Clear Skies,
ASX

I. 5th. annual "Faces of Space" (FoS) Lecture Series – Lecture 4

FMARS 2007 – Mars exploration study in the Canadian Arctic

Admission is **Free**
Refreshments will be served



DATE & TIME: Friday, March 28, 2008, 7:00 PM

LOCATION: University of Toronto, St. George Campus, 40 St. George St.
Bahen Centre for Information Technology, Room. 1160 (BA 1160)

SPEAKERS:

Melissa Battlers - *Crew Commander FMARS 11*

Ryan Kobrick - *Human Factor Researcher FMARS 11*

Abstract: In order to help develop key knowledge needed to prepare for human Mars exploration, and to inspire the public by making real the vision of human exploration of Mars, the Mars Society maintains multiple habitats around the world, where simulation missions can take place in conditions as similar as possible to actual Mars missions. The Flashline Mars Arctic Research Station, brought online in 2000, was the first station created in support of this goal.

The FMARS 11 crew completed a 4-month mission at FMARS on Devon Island in the Canadian arctic in 2007. It was the longest mission so far, and a great success. For the first time, they operated in "Mars time" meaning that their days were 24h and 40 minutes long. They accomplished many tasks including water management studies, human factors studies, numerous biology and geology experiments, engineering maintenance of the habitat and simply cohabiting successfully for 4 months in very close quarters. Numerous publications and presentations at international conferences have been produced from work done by this crew.

Join us, as members of the crew will share with us their great experience in this Mars analogue setting, how it relates to Mars, their greatest moments and how you can get involved.

II. ASX Executive Elections

The Astronomy and Space Exploration Society (ASX) at the University of Toronto would like to invite you to the upcoming elections for the 2008-2009 executive board:

DATE & TIME:

Thursday, April 3, 2008, 7:00 PM

LOCATION:

University of Toronto, St. George Campus,
40 St. George St.
Bahen Centre for Information Technology,
Room. 1180 (BA 1180)

The following executive positions are available:

- President
- Vice-President / Sponsorship Director
- Secretary
- Finance Director
- Symposium Director
- Projects Director
- Observing Director
- Communications Director
- Marketing Director

Other Positions:

- Poster Designer
- Webmaster
- ASX radio show co-host
- Department/Faculty Liaison
- High School Liaison
- Event Volunteer - Symposium, FoS, Observing

To apply for a position please contact us at space.society@utoronto.ca with "Election 2008: <Name of the position you are interested in>" in the subject line.

Please send your request no later than **March 29, 2008**.



Wanna find out what they have in common?

START HERE: Join the Exec.
Submit your nomination to
space.society@utoronto.ca

(Include: name, program, statement of interest)
by Friday, March 28, 2008 @ 5:00 PM

 space.society@utoronto.ca
Elections
April 3, 2008 **2008-2009**

For more info, visit: asx.sa.utoronto.ca



III. Yuri's Night Celebration

Newmindspace invites you to Yuri's Night 08 at the Ontario Science Centre. **ASX members** are invited to join the celebration party and are being offered **discounted tickets**, at \$15 each.



DATE & TIME: April 5, 2008, 8:00 PM

LOCATION: [Ontario Science Centre](#)

ORGANIZED BY: Newmindspace

KEYNOTE SPEAKER:

Dr. Robert Richards - *Founder of Google Lunar X PRIZE team Odyssey Moon*

Abstract: Yuri's Night is an international celebration of the first human spaceflight, taken by cosmonaut Yuri Gagarin in April 1961. Over one hundred Yuri's Night events are planned all over the world! Toronto's will be hosted by Newmindspace at the Ontario Science Centre, featuring space exhibits, guest speakers, dance music, food, drink, and much more.

- Musical performances by JELO, OS/2, The Phat Conductor (aka Ill Gates) and Vaneska, hosted by Guy Michael
- Art installations by Newmindspace and BurnON
- Space themed exhibitions and projections Access to Ontario Science Centre Exhibits, including Space Hall, Sport Hall, Hot Zone, Weston Family Innovation Centre and more!
- This event is appropriate for all ages. All young children must be accompanied by a parent or guardian.

For more details and ticket information, please see: www.yurisnight.ca



IV. Canada's first Graduate Program in Planetary Science

The Departments of Earth Sciences and Physics and Astronomy at the *University of Western Ontario* announce their new collaborative Graduate Program in Planetary Science.

With over 20 faculty involved in the Planetary Science Research Group (PSRG) at Western, there are many areas of study to choose from. Focus is on 6 main research fields:

- Planetary Surfaces.
- Planetary Interiors.
- Planetary Atmospheres.
- Cosmochemistry.
- Astrobiology.
- Planetary Dynamics/Astronomy.

Some specific available projects include:

- Earliest signs of life on Earth and Mars,
Supervisor: Dr. Neil R. Banerjee. MSc or PhD. [neil.banerjee@uwo.ca]
- Spacecraft trajectory analysis near Mars' small moon Phobos,
Supervisor: Dr. Paul Wiegert. MSc. [pwiegert@uwo.ca]
- Observational determination of asteroid properties,
Dr. Paul Wiegert. MSc and PhD.
- Theoretical study of meteoroid stream dynamics,
Dr. Paul Wiegert. MSc and PhD.
- Impact crater lakes on Earth and Mars,
Supervisor: Dr. Gordon Osinski. MSc or PhD. [gosinski@uwo.ca]
- Isotopic dating and microstructural analysis of impact processes and planetary evolution using terrestrial and lunar samples.
Supervisor: Dr. Des Moser. [desmond.moser@uwo.ca]
- Impact cratering processes on the Moon through the study of Lunar meteorites and terrestrial analogues,
Supervisors: Dr. Gordon Osinski and Dr. Des Moser. MSc or PhD. [gosinski@uwo.ca]
- Planetary atmospheres, with emphasis on Earth's middle atmosphere using lidar (laser radar),
Supervisor: R. J. Sica. MSc or PhD projects. [sica@uwo.ca]

Details of the program can be found at

http://aquarid.physics.uwo.ca/planetsci/grad_program.htm