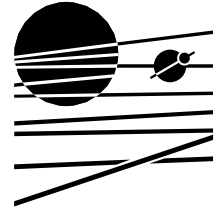




THE UNIVERSITY  
OF ARIZONA.

## DEPARTMENT OF PLANETARY SCIENCES

### Lunar and Planetary Laboratory



## 10 FACTS

1. PtyS/LPL pursues research and education across the broad discipline of solar system science through use of theoretical studies and data analysis, laboratory and field investigations, numerical modeling, telescopic observations, remote sensing, spacecraft instrumentation, and space mission development and operations.
2. PtyS/LPL is a community of approximately 250 faculty, research and staff scientists, graduate and undergraduate students, research associates, and support staff.
3. The PtyS faculty includes three members of the National Academy of Sciences (1 Emeritus), six University Regents' Professors (2 Emeritus), and a University Distinguished Professor (Emeritus).
4. The Department of Planetary Sciences graduates approximately 4 Ph.D. students per year.
5. External funding from all sources exceeds \$25M per year.
6. Faculty have served as either principal or co- investigators on many spacecraft instruments and missions. PtyS/LPL successfully led and managed surface operations for the PHOENIX Mars mission, becoming the first and so far only university organization to manage a planetary mission. PtyS/LPL faculty are actively involved with many spacecraft missions, including: Cassini, MESSENGER, LRO, Juno, MRO, and Mars Odyssey.
7. LPL's SpaceWatch and Catalina Sky Survey programs have discovered most of the near-Earth asteroids found in the past three years.
8. Approximately 80% of PtyS graduates are still active in the field of solar system science or astronomy.
9. Eight PtyS graduate students are currently funded with fellowships awarded in national competitions.
10. A recent independent review of PtyS/LPL found that it has an impressive breadth of discipline coverage and ranked the department at the top of its peer group: "Measured in terms of the quality and size of its faculty and the impact of their collective research programs, LPL is probably the most dynamic and successful planetary science department in the world."



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