

A MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT MICHAEL PECAUT

Fall has finally arrived. The air is cooling, students are back in class, and everyone's schedules are picking up. Even with the increased activities of the season, planning for the Phoenix meeting is moving forward with good momentum. Ken Shields is working his magic to bring in several exciting keynote speakers. The Presidential Plenary is finalized, and planning for the Fellows' Plenary is well underway under the leadership of Jeff Smith and the Fellows Committee. Once all speaker confirmations are in place, we'll be excited to share the full schedule with our membership.

It's no secret that our community has been feeling the impact of recent decisions in Washington, D.C., and the last few months have brought more challenges than we would like. The International Space Station Research and Development Conference was held virtually last week, and NASA's Human Research Program Investigators' Workshop (HRP IWS) next March will also be virtual. But ASGSR will be live and in person this year—a rare and important opportunity to come together. As one of the few in-person gatherings of its kind this year, our meeting will be a place to strengthen connections, share progress, and sustain our community through the current budget headwinds.

We've weathered tough periods before, and each time we've come out stronger. We will do so again.

Mike

A MESSAGE FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR ELLEN GERTSEN

It's hard to believe that I joined ASGSR a little over a month ago, and what a whirlwind this past month has been! My thanks to everyone who has reached out to welcome me.

I have been hard at work on three major efforts:

1. **Organizational Excellence** - One of my top priorities is to ensure seamless operations while providing new and innovative programming to meet member needs. ASGSR is actively recruiting for two new team members to work beside me to meet this goal.
2. **Improved Communications** - I have actively been looking for opportunities to raise awareness of ASGSR and the importance of member activities to enable future activities in space. The upcoming Hill Day is a great way to showcase your amazing research and new opportunities are already in work.
3. **Preparing for the Annual Meeting** - Conference preparations are in full swing and I am very excited about the how the program is coming together. Over the coming weeks, we'll share more details about the exciting lineup of speakers and events so make sure you are checking your e-mails and the conference website.

As always, feel free to reach out if you have ideas or just to say hi.

Ellen



THE COUNTDOWN TO #ASGSR25 IS ON!

- Early bird [registration](#) ends on October 3. If you have not already registered, do so today before rates go up.
- The call for [late breaking abstracts](#) closes on October 3. Submit your abstract before Friday.
- Help us recognize your colleagues during the annual meeting. The calls for [Award Nominations](#) and Fellow Nominations close on October 3.
- There are still opportunities available to help [sponsor](#) the annual meeting and to sign up as an exhibitor. The deadline to respond is October 31.
- The ASGSR 2025 [Space Art Competition](#) is now accepting submissions! This year's theme, "*Exploration. Enabling Science,*" invites you to visualize research discoveries, microgravity experiments, and the future of space exploration. Submit your artwork by November 8 to be featured in our Virtual Gallery and In-Person Exhibition at the annual meeting.

CALLS FOR ACTION

- NASA's Division of Biological and Physical Sciences is looking to hear from you on Sunsetting and Emerging Science topics as part of their road mapping efforts. Click [here](#) to learn more about the process and how to submit your ideas. The deadline to respond is October 17.
- ASGSR is now accepting [nominations](#) to serve on the Governing Board. The deadline to apply is October 25.

NEWS HIGHLIGHTS

NASA recently announced that the A Virtual Astronaut Tissue Analog Response ([AVATAR](#)) experiment will fly aboard Artemis II. The investigation will use organ-on-a-chip devices to study the effects of increased radiation and microgravity on human health.

NEWS FROM AROUND ASGSR**Day of Action to Save NASA Science**

ASGSR is excited to participate in the [Day of Action](#) to Save NASA Science on October 6. We have partnered with the Planetary Society and over sixteen other organizations for this event to talk about the importance of NASA-funded research and to highlight scientific breakthroughs enabled by that funding. Thanks to everyone who volunteered to attend in person or take on-line action.

So long, and thanks for all the fish!

After 50 years of teaching, mentoring, and science-ing, Dr. Louis Stodieck is retiring, though one can never really retire from science nor space! Read the full [article](#) from University of Colorado at Boulder.



To infinity and beyond

As part of “[Purdue 1](#)” Dr. Steven Collicott and his student are scheduled to take flight via the Virgin Galactic suborbital mission in 2027. The experiments will focus on studying the effects of weightlessness on fluidic motion during spaceflight.

New Member Spotlight

Welcome to our newest member Áine (pronouncedAWN-ya), a chocolate lab. Áine is a five-month-old rescue puppy now comfortably living with Dr. Michael Pecaut. Áine means “queen of the fairies” in Celtic.



RESEACH SPOTLIGHT

Physics for Life in Space

Dr. Alvaro Romero-Calvo and his team have recently published two papers with high impact in the field of space physics.

The first paper in Nature Chemistry reports on a new method for oxygen production in microgravity: <https://doi.org/10.1038/s41557-025-01890-0>
The second paper in Acta Astronautica investigates the problem of lunar dust mitigation using a novel technique. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.actaastro.2025.08.057>

MEMBERSHIP

- Are you an ASGSR member? If not, [learn](#) more and [join](#) today. A friendly reminder that all ASGSR memberships expire June 30 of each year. Thanks to those who have renewed already. If you haven't yet, [renew](#) your membership now.
- Help us grow the ASGSR community. Do you know any space scientists? Share this newsletter with them and invite them to join our amazing community. Space science is the future!

ASGSR STUDENT UPDATES

Mark your calendars October 30th for a stellar talk about Space Law! This month we'll be hosting a talk titled, 'An introduction to space law for scientists and engineers.' Follow us on your favorite social media platforms [@ASGSRstudents](#) to stay updated for the webinar link!

CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS

The marketing committee needs help and is now recruiting team members. Please consider joining. Send an email to marketing@asgsr.org

CALL FOR CONTENT

Do you have news to share? Send an email to marketing@asgsr.org for content to include in future newsletters. Submit content by October 24th to be included in the November 1st issue. In the meantime, follow ASGSR on [LinkedIn](#) and [Facebook](#).

