

## **A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT, JEFFREY SMITH**

It's February. Normally, at this time of year, I've dropped all of my New Year's resolutions, I've accepted that the Holiday pounds I gained last December are here to stay, and ASGSR is quiet. This year, save for those first two items, things have been anything but normal. ASGSR is a buzzing hive of activity. We've signed the contract with the [Crystal Gateway Marriott](#) in Crystal City, VA, to host our [42<sup>nd</sup> ASGSR Conference](#) in December, we're actively engaging with other space science and exploration organizations to amplify our voice of advocacy for gravitational and space research and we're planning to attend a number of events with our peer organizations to bring visibility to the value and contributions of our community's science and missions that are enabling human and robotic space exploration. We're also already preparing for the annual announcements, & deadlines (like calls for abstracts, nominations for awards and registration dates) that come ahead of our conference to make it a success.

This year, to help us all plan well and know what's coming, we've added a [2026 Calendar of Events](#) to our ASGSR website, located right on our [homepage](#). All of our pre-conference deadlines and dates for announcements are being added, and will continue to be refined, as we get closer to operating in full-swing. Please bookmark [this page](#) and check back regularly as you look ahead and plan for this year's meeting. I'm already looking forward to seeing you all there!

## **A MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, ELLEN GERTSEN**

This past month I had the opportunity to represent ASGSR at NASA's 2026 Moon to Mars Architecture Workshop. These workshops are an opportunity for industry and academia to provide inputs into NASA's plans and I shared how biological and physical science research are critical enablers of human exploration. You can learn more about the workshop [here](#).

I'd also like to thank everyone who participated in the membership survey we administered during the Annual Meeting. We received nearly 150 responses and have been going through your feedback as we plan for the coming year. Stay tuned for more information!



## POLICY UPDATES

The American Institute of Biological Sciences (AIBS) will host their annual Congressional Visits Day April 20-21, 2026. To learn more about this event and to register to participate, visit the AIBS [website](#). Registration closes on February 23, 2026.

## FORMATION OF OUR ANALYSIS GROUP, THE GSR-TAG

The ASGSR Governing Board is pleased to announce the establishment of the ***Gravitational and Space Research – Technical Analysis Group (GSR-TAG)***. The primary purpose of the Analysis Group is to create a community-based forum for providing coordinated perspectives on a variety of timely matters related to the future directions of gravitational and space research across biological and physical science disciplines as well as exploration science. The GSR-TAG will compile its findings from the community, publish as-appropriate, and communicate them to the Biological and Physical Sciences Division Director, within the Science Mission Directorate, and to other offices within NASA, and other stakeholder groups as requested.

We need your support and engagement! ***Watch for an email, coming soon***, from ASGSR with additional details and a call for nominations to join the inaugural GSR-TAG.

## MOMENT IN HISTORY ([President's Showcase](#) Now Available at [ASGSR History](#))

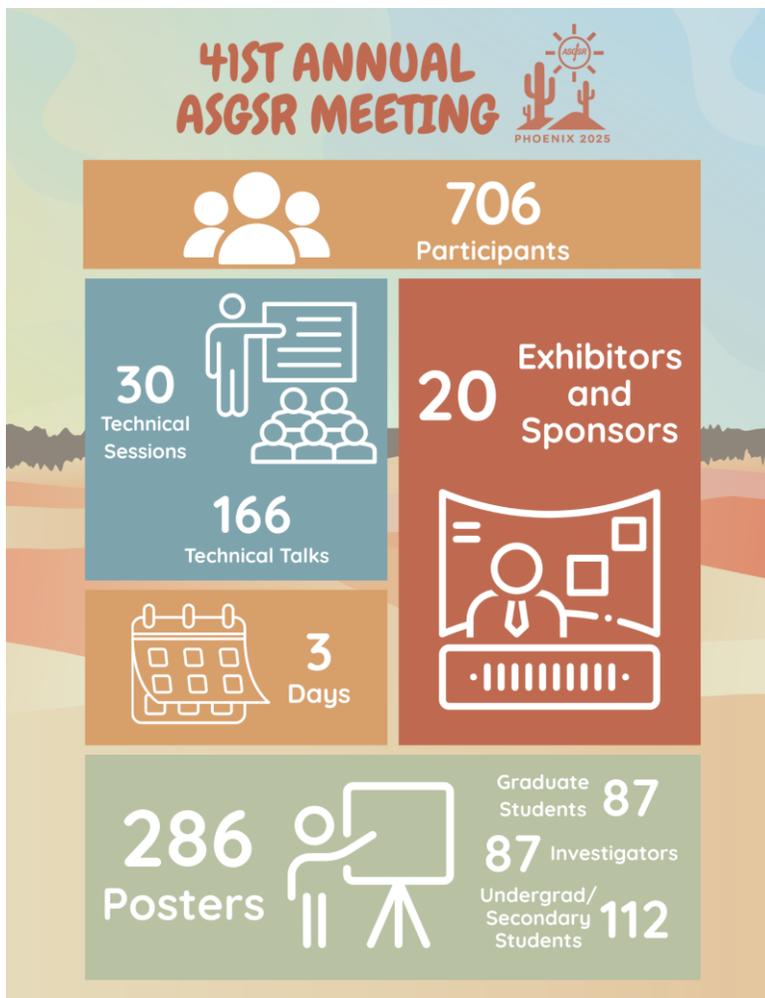
A little over a year ago, ASGSR marked its 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary. That's four decades of our members, volunteers, staff and stakeholders, working hard to organize our community, advocating for gravitational & space research and creating a forum, at our annual meetings, for sharing the latest science, technology, industry and government developments across basic and translational biological and physical science research in space. Now, entering the 42<sup>nd</sup> year as a Society, we look forward to bringing another 40 years of advocacy, visibility and success to our very-multidisciplinary community; but, as we look forward, it is always instructive to remember how far we've come and to recognize and celebrate the moments, and people, in our ASGSR past, who's passion, vision and hard work have set the course for our present, and future.

Someone famous once said, "in order to understand our future, we must first, understand our past." To this end, we've introduced a new [ASGSR History](#) section to the ASGSR website at <https://asgsr.org/asgsr-history>. The first entry is a [President's Showcase](#), which was originally created by Keith Chapes and shared at our 40<sup>th</sup> ASGSR Meeting in San Juan Puerto Rico. We hope you'll enjoy this, and other posts, we will make to this section to help recognize, preserve and celebrate the rich history, and exceptional people, of our Society—past, present and future!



## 41st ASGSR MEETING INFOGRAPHIC, PROCEEDINGS AND ABSTRACTS

The 41st ASGSR meeting in Phoenix (December 3-6, 2025) is now archived on the website at [2025-Phoenix](https://asgrr.org/2025-Phoenix) and includes final conference proceedings and abstracts.



### CALL FOR VOLUNTEER FOR CONFERENCE PROGRAM PLANNING

Are you interested in helping plan the 2026 ASGSR Annual Meeting? We are actively soliciting volunteers to serve on the Meetings and Workshops Committee. Please reach out to [meetings@asgrr.org](mailto:meetings@asgrr.org) with questions or to express your interest in joining. The first meeting will be held on Monday February 23 at 11 AM PT. Email Michael Pecaut at [mpecaut@llu.edu](mailto:mpecaut@llu.edu) to obtain a meeting link.

Watch the conference website at <https://asgrr.org/2026-crystal-city-va/> for more info.

