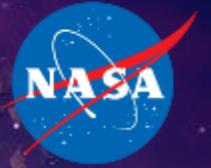


National Aeronautics and
Space Administration



EXPLORE SCIENCE

Networking: A Critical Early Career Scientist Need

Andy Shaner

Public Engagement Lead

June 1, 2020

Networking: A Critical Early Career Scientist Need



Cancellation of the 51st Lunar and Planetary Science Conference (LPSC) left many early career planetary scientists without a large forum to engage and network with future advisors/employers. In response, the Lunar and Planetary Institute piloted a **virtual networking event**. Early career researchers were given five minutes to present their research experience and skills to the planetary science community which was invited to view the presentations.

Virtual Early Career Planetary Networking Event

- April 24 – May 1, 2020
- 12 sessions; 73 registered presenters
- 330 viewers (not unique viewers)
- Conducted using the USRA *RingCentral Meetings* platform
- Topics included the Moon, Mars, asteroids and other small bodies, icy bodies including Pluto, meteorites, and instrument/mission concepts
- Session recordings are available on the LPI YouTube channel:
<https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLQ7WzZtg-qMBW1NGEv087BzYLyVkmufY4>

Feedback

- Presenters were grateful for the opportunity
- Presenters indicated they would like to see similar virtual events in the future
- Some presenters would like to give short presentations of their LPSC abstracts virtually before the face-to-face meeting in Houston

Next Steps

- Fall 2020 (*tentative*): virtual early career networking event
- Spring 2021 (*tentative*): 5-minute virtual LPSC lightning round presentations **OR** virtual early career networking event (if LPSC is cancelled)



USRA's RingCentral Meetings is powered by Zoom, a familiar online meeting platform for many people.

