

28 April 2005

**1ST CIRCULAR: WORKSHOP ON “GEOLOGY AND HABITABILITY OF TERRESTRIAL PLANETS”
5 – 9 September 2005, ISSI, Bern, Switzerland**

CONVENORS

Michael Carr, USGS Menlo-Park
Charles Cockell, Open University
Kathryn Fishbaugh, ISSI
Ralf Jaumann, DLR
Lynn Rothschild, NASA Ames
Tilman Spohn, DLR
Frances Westall, CNRS

Space Science Series Volume EDITORS

(provisional)

Kathryn Fishbaugh, ISSI
Philippe Lognonné, Institut de Physique du Globe
de Paris and University of Paris VII
Francois Raulin, University of Paris

CONTACTS at ISSI

Questions regarding the scientific program: Dr. Kathryn Fishbaugh, Discipline Scientist, Planetary Science, fishbaugh@issi.unibe.ch, +41 31 631 32 54
Questions regarding hotel, travel, directions to ISSI, etc.: Ms. Brigitte Fasler, Secretary, fasler@issi.unibe.ch, +41 31 631 48 96
Questions regarding computer & A/V issues: Mr. Saliba Saliba, System Administrator, saliba@issi.unibe.ch, +41 31 631 32 51
When in doubt: Kate Fishbaugh

Please note that all information in this circular will also soon be put on the workshop webpage located under “Workshop Schedule” on the ISSI home page (<http://www.issi.unibe.ch>) or directly at <http://www.issi.unibe.ch/workshops/Geology/>.

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WORKSHOP OBJECTIVES

As initially suggested to ISSI by Philippe Lognonné (acting on behalf of the European Union - Mars European Geophysical Network, MAGE) and further articulated by the convenors, the workshop will focus on the relationship between a planet's evolution and the evolution of habitability on that planet. In this sense, the workshop will add a new dimension to the current focus of astrobiological studies by assessing not only the probability that unicellular life ever did or still does exist on Mars but also by focusing on the long-term habitability of any terrestrial-like planet. Additionally, the workshop has the distinction of being

truly interdisciplinary in nature, intimately weaving geologic, atmospheric, geophysical, magnetospheric, and biological planetary studies together. To this end, we are inviting both a biologist and a geoscientist to serve as co-chairs for each session and are inviting scientists from many different fields to participate and give talks. As a result of this workshop, we will produce a volume in the ISSI Space Science Series published by Kluwer. Each book chapter will correspond to the sessions, and the sessions chairs will serve as lead authors. Other workshop participants and experts not present at the workshop are encouraged to contribute as co-authors. For more detailed information on the workshop structure, please see the preliminary program on the workshop website. For more information about ISSI itself, please see the ISSI website at www.issi.unibe.ch.

FOR SPEAKERS

Abstract Submittal: As indicated to you in our invitation letter, we have asked each speaker to give a talk on a particular topic. We have constructed the workshop program such that the goals of the workshop will be fulfilled, and that the resultant book sufficiently covers the workshop topic. It is of course up to the speaker how he/she wishes to address the provided topic, but given the goals of the workshop, we ask that you please be mindful of how habitability ties in to your topic and of how your talk fits into the “big picture” of the entire workshop. So that the abstracts can serve as useful references themselves, please submit a maximum of 2 pages (minimum of about 1) in 2 column, 10pt. font format. An abstract template can be found on the workshop webpage. *Talk titles and abstracts are due by 30 June*. Please send them *in PDF format* to Kathryn Fishbaugh at fishbaugh@issi.unibe.ch. ISSI will provide a digital projector, a PC laptop, and an overhead projector (or 2) for talks. You are also welcome to bring your own Mac laptop to hook up to the projector. Please let our System Administrator, Mr. Saliba, know if you have any other needs for your talk (contact info provided above).

FOR SESSION CHAIRS

Session Preparation: As session chairs, you will serve as the lead co-authors for the book chapter corresponding to your session. Additional authors can include other workshop participants and other experts not present at the workshop. Since it is essential to the goals of this workshop that the book is truly multidisciplinary, we ask that you communicate with your co-chairs before the workshop to formulate an outline of the chapter and to discuss who could serve as appropriate co-authors (including young scientists, such as graduate students and post-docs). We will provide more information later on the technicalities of the chapter submittal, book organization, and make-up of the editors.

At the end of the workshop, you will also be providing summaries of the discussions which take place in each of your sessions. As part of this summary, you could include the tentative chapter outline so that other participants and potential co-authors are able to give you feedback.

FOR ALL PARTICIPANTS

Facilities: ISSI has a reliable wireless network to which you will be able to connect during the meeting; the meeting room size will not allow for everyone to connect to an Ethernet cable. Since the ISSI wireless network can only be accessed by password, please contact Mr. Saliba, by 22 August so that he can set up an account for you.

During the workshop, there will be no other groups meeting at ISSI, so there will also be rooms available for meetings of small groups during free time. You will also be able to connect your own laptop to the Ethernet in these rooms. PC and Mac computers are available for all participants to use during free time.

Travel and hotel arrangements: While more details will be forthcoming, for those who wish to plan early: our secretary at ISSI, Ms. Fasler, will be handling travel and lodging logistics. She plans to book a block of rooms, paid by ISSI, at a nearby hotel within walking distance of ISSI and the main train station. These rooms will have private shower/toilet, phone, and TV. If you wish to make your own hotel

arrangements, ISSI will reimburse you up to 130 CHF per night during the workshop, but only by wire transfer, not by check.

ISSI will not cover any transportation costs, but for your information: the closest airport is the Bern/Belp airport (BRN), but unless there is a sale, it is quite expensive to fly into Bern from overseas. The Geneva (GVA) and Zürich (ZRH) airports are only 1.5 and about 1 hour, respectively, by train from Bern, and cost much less to fly into. Please send your travel plans to Ms. Fasler by 22 August so that she can book a room for you for the appropriate nights. Once you have sent your travel plans and Ms. Fasler has made your hotel reservations, she will send to you more details on hotel location, etc. If you have any questions concerning travel, hotel arrangements, or visa issues please contact Ms. Fasler (contact info provided above).

As indicated in your invitation letter, ISSI will reimburse you for food through a per diem of 70 CHF per day. Again, you will be reimbursed only by wire transfer, not by check.

Future circulars will include more information about travel and hotel arrangements, the Wednesday tourist expedition, the Thursday evening workshop dinner, and other logistics. All information will also be posted on the workshop webpage.