COMMITTEE ON PLANETARY PROTECTION

Established in July 2020 as a new standing committee of the SSB.

15 members with expertise in relevant science, engineering, project management, and policy.

Primary tasks:

1. Monitor progress in implementing planetary protection guidelines
2. Serve as a source of information and advice on planetary protection.

Secondary functions:

1. Provide a forum to identify and discuss emerging issues;

2. Identify and prioritize necessary research and development activities;

3. Provide a forum for interactions with COSPAR and other national and international organizations.

COMMITTEE ROSTER

- **JOSEPH K. ALEXANDER, Independent Consultant, *Chair***
- **ANGEL ABBUD-MADRID, Colorado School of Mines**
- **ANTHONY COLAPRETE, NASA Ames Research Center**
- **MICHAEL J. DALY, Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences**
- **DAVID P. FIDLER, Council on Foreign Relations**
- **SARAH A. GAVIT, Jet Propulsion Laboratory**
- **AMANDA R. HENDRIX, Planetary Science Institute**
- **ANDREW D. HORCHLER, Astrobotic Technology, Inc.**
- **DAVID M. KARL, NAS, University of Hawaii at Manoa**
- **EUGENE H. LEVY, Rice University**
- **ROBERT E. LINDBERG, JR., Independent Consultant**
- **MARGARITA M. MARINOVA, Independent Consultant**
- **A. DEANNE ROGERS, Stony Brook University, The State University of New York**
- **GERHARD H. SCHWEHM, European Space Agency (retired)**
- **TRISTA J. VICK MAJORS, Michigan Technological University**

SHORT REPORT ON LUNAR VOLATILES

1. Current scientific understanding, value, and potential threat of organic and biological contamination to:

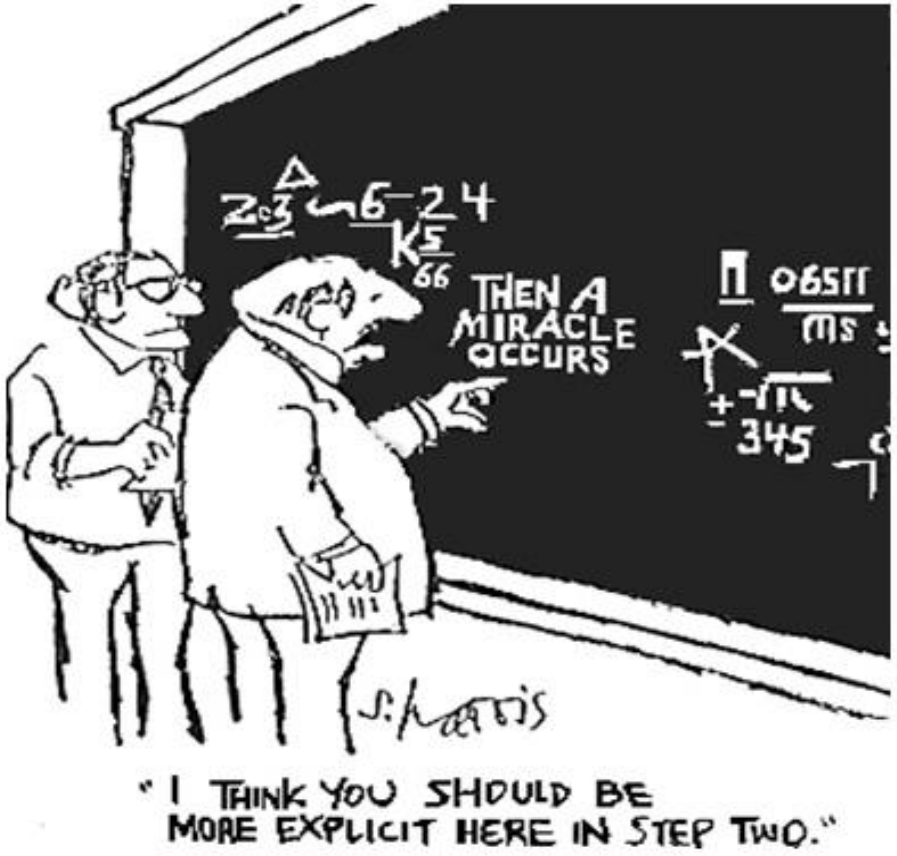
    a. permanently shadowed regions for study of the history of the solar system and its associated organic compounds,
    b. understanding the process of prebiotic chemical evolution and the origin of life,
    c. likelihood that spacecraft reaching the lunar surface will transfer volatiles to polar cold traps.

2. How much and which regions of the Moon's surface and subsurface are of sufficient scientific value to warrant protection from organic and biological contamination.

SHORT REPORT SCHEDULE

- Five, virtual, half-day meetings between Sept. 4 and Oct. 2, 2020
- Draft report ready for review – Oct.16
- Reviews due – Oct. 27
- Target for delivery to NASA – December 2020

Expect ~50 pp report with findings but no recommendations.



What makes a report effective