

**PLANETARY DATA SYSTEM
CHARTER
Draft 2006-10-11**

The Planetary Data System (PDS) assists NASA in achieving its planetary science goals by efficiently collecting, archiving, and making accessible digital data produced by or relevant to NASA's planetary missions, research programs, and data analysis programs. The Planetary Science Division relies on the Planetary Data System to implement those goals through its Headquarters Program Executive, Headquarters Program Scientist and designated Program Manager.

The Planetary Data System (PDS) Management Council (MC) is the scientific policy board for PDS. It decides policy and priorities for the PDS with respect to science and science data management, ensuring coordination among Nodes, responsiveness to customer needs, and appropriate uses of information technologies that make PDS tasks more efficient and cost effective.

The Management Council consists of the PDS Program Manager, the PDS Program Scientist, the Managers of the Engineering, Navigation and Ancillary Information Facility, and Science Discipline Nodes (Atmospheres, Geosciences, Imaging, Planetary Plasma Interactions, Rings, and Small Bodies), and the Radio Science Advisor.

The PDS Program Manager chairs the Management Council and conducts its meetings, setting the agenda with the help and input of the PDS Program Scientist and the other MC members. The PDS Program Scientist serves as Vice Chair and conducts the Executive Session at the end of the meetings.

Between face-to-face meetings, the MC convenes regularly by teleconference and may confer by teleconference, e-mail, or other means to address questions needing more frequent or more immediate attention.

As needed, the Council may convene subgroups, including Technology Subgroups, to pursue specific actions and report results to the Council.