



January 2022

Dear Friends,

Welcome to the 2022 spring semester! We are enjoying beautiful weather here in Arizona and have a lot of exciting research, announcements, and events to share as we kick off the new year.

First, I hope you will join me in welcoming our newest faculty member, Associate Professor **Tracee Jamison-Hooks**. Her background is in electrical engineering with a focus on digital signal processing, digital logic, and photonics. She has over 20 years of experience working at NASA Goddard Space Flight Center, where she worked on the MAVEN Mission, the CeREs Cubesat Mission, and was the co-investigator on several lunar and planetary technology development programs. I hope you all get a chance to meet her soon!

Second, congratulations are in order for professors Kip Hodges and Enrique Vivoni who are newly elected AAAS fellows. We are extremely proud of their accomplishments.

Finally, we are delighted to announce that our [Virtual Night Sky events](#) have resumed! Be sure to join us every other Wednesday to learn about stars and planets you can see from your backyard as well as the latest updates in Earth and space exploration.

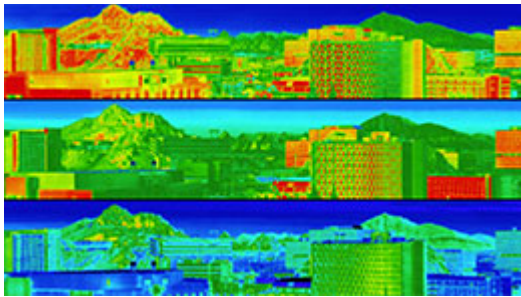
I hope you enjoy this newsletter featuring the latest school news, announcements and features. For more information on our research, events, students, faculty, and alumni, we have included links to social media at the end of this newsletter. Please follow us, share, and retweet.

Be well and keep safe,



Meenakshi (Mini) Wadhwa

In the News



ASU instrument captures breathtaking 'first light' images

ASU scientists and engineers building the Europa Thermal Emission Imaging System (E-THEMIS) led by Regents

Professor Philip Christensen for NASA's Europa Clipper passed a major hurdle recently by capturing the first successful test images from this complex infrared camera, known as "first light" images.

Europa Clipper, a NASA mission to investigate Jupiter's moon Europa, is planned to launch in October 2024 and arrive at Jupiter in 2030. It will study this icy moon through a series of flybys while in orbit around Jupiter to investigate whether it could harbor conditions suitable for life. [Read more](#)

Weathering rocks hold clues to Earth's Great Oxidation Event

New research has been published from a team of scientists, led by James Andrew Leong with Tucker Ely (both of

whom earned their doctoral degrees from SESE in 2020) and SESE and SMS Professor Everett Shock. They determined that weathering rocks might have contributed to Earth's Great Oxidation Event. Their results were recently published in *Nature Communications*. [Read more](#)



ASU astronomer finds star fuel surrounding galaxies

Recent research by SESE's Sanchayeeta Borthakur has identified the faint fuel reservoirs that surround

galaxies, and how this fuel can fall into galaxies, allowing them to form new stars and planetary systems. Her research has been published in the *Astrophysical Journal*. [Read more](#)

Team of astronomers finds widest separation of brown dwarf pair to date

A team of astronomers, led by ASU undergraduate student Emma Softich, has discovered a rare pair of brown

dwarfs that has the widest separation of any brown dwarf binary system found to date. [Read more](#)



Announcements



Tracee Jamison-Hooks

Welcome Tracee Jamison-Hooks who has recently joined the School as Associate Professor. Professor Hooks is looking forward to furthering her research in Digital Logic and DSP for microwave applications which target Earth, Lunar and Planetary missions. She will also develop research in the area of Photonic Signal Processing (PSP).

Lab of the month

The 100K and 10K cleanroom facilities located within the Interdisciplinary Science and Technology Building 4 (ISTB4), are spaceflight-certified cleanrooms for assembly and testing of instruments and spacecraft for missions



beyond Earth. The 100K cleanroom also features a thermal vacuum test chamber in which instruments and spacecraft can be tested under the temperature and vacuum conditions they will experience in space. [Watch this video](#)



AAAS honors two new lifetime fellows

The American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS), the world's largest general scientific society and publisher of the Science family of

journals, has elected school professors **Kip Hodges** and **Enrique Vivoni** to the newest class of AAAS Fellows, among the most distinct honors within the

scientific community. Read more about [Hodges'](#) and [Vivoni's](#) contributions and achievements.

Events

Virtual Night Sky

Join the ASU Marston Exploration Theater presenters on **Wednesday, February 9 and 23 at 7 p.m.** for a live planetarium presentation. Learn about the planets and stars visible in the night



sky from your own backyard and the latest events in space exploration! Register in advance for these FREE Zoom webinars [February 9](#) and [February 23](#).



ASU/NASA Space Grant Poster Session

Join the undergraduate ASU/NASA Space Grant interns as they showcase their research projects at the annual NASA Space Grant Poster Session on

Wednesday, February 16 from 11:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at the Interdisciplinary Science and Technology Building IV (ISTB4). This event allows the ASU community the opportunity to see a range of projects that our students perform in science, engineering and informal education. Come and learn about the exciting things that are happening with ASU/NASA Space Grant, and how you too can be a part of this fun program as an intern or faculty mentor. For more information, contact Desiree D. Crawl desiree.crawl@asu.edu.

Alumni Announcements

New graduates: Join the ASU Alumni Association

As an ASU grad, you are an important and valued member of one of the strongest alumni networks in the country and around the world — half a million strong! As a recent grad taking the next steps in your personal and professional life, ASU is a powerful partner, each step of the way. Wherever you are, make the most of your career, family, activities and more. Join us on [LinkedIn](#), [update your contact information](#) and learn more about the [Alumni Association](#).

ASU School of Earth and
Space Exploration
Arizona State University



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