



February 2022

Dear Friends,

In this month's newsletter, we have several exciting announcements, including the creation of the **Beus Center for Cosmic Foundations**, which has been established through a generous gift by Leo and Annette Beus. This new center aims to help us better understand the history of early stars and galaxies, enhancing our knowledge of the universe. Professor Judd Bowman will serve as the inaugural endowed chair and director of the center and assistant professor Allison Noble will serve as the inaugural endowed professor.

I would also like to congratulate astronomical and planetary sciences major Rose Ferreira on being awarded the prestigious **Brooke Owens Fellowship**,

Professor Ramon Arrowsmith who was selected for the [2022 Alumni Association's Founders' Day Faculty Service Achievement Award](#) , and Professor Hilairy Hartnett whose research has been awarded the international [2022 John Martin Award from the Association for the Sciences of Limnology and Oceanography](#). We are extremely proud of all their accomplishments.

This month, we are also celebrating the one-year “landiversary” of the NASA Mars 2020 Perseverance rover, which landed on February 18, 2021. Onboard this rover are the ASU-led Mastcam-Z cameras, which have produced incredible images and videos from the Red Planet. ASU News ran a special feature on the [Mastcam-Z mission ops team](#), which we are featuring in this newsletter and that I hope you all will get a chance to read.

On the horizon, I encourage everyone to save the date for the **2022 Sun Devil Giving Day on March 17**. This annual event focuses on a single day of giving, and your donations have a tremendous impact on our school’s programming, scholarship funds, and student resources. I am deeply grateful to our broader community, our friends and colleagues, for the support and continued commitment to our school.

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



## ASU Mastcam-Z team an inspiration to girls (and everyone) interested in STEM

In celebration of the United Nations International Day of Women and Girls in Science (Feb. 11) and the one-year

anniversary of the Mars 2020 rover landing (Feb. 18), ASU published a feature on the Mars 2020 Mastcam-Z mission ops team, which is responsible for some of the most spectacular images and videos from the Mars Perseverance Rover. [Read more about this team](#) and their advice for anyone interested in studying and working in STEM fields.

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## Beus Center for Cosmic Foundations is established

Through a significant gift and endowment from Leo and Annette Beus, the School of Earth and Space is proud to announce the establishment of the Beus Center for Cosmic Foundations. This new center aims



to help us better understand the history of early stars and galaxies, enhancing our knowledge of the universe. Professor Judd Bowman will serve as the inaugural endowed chair and director of the center and assistant professor Allison Noble will serve as the inaugural endowed professor. [Read more](#)

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## Ramon Arrowsmith awarded by Alumni Association for Faculty Service Achievement

Congratulations to school professor Ramon Arrowsmith, who has been selected as the recipient of the 2022 Alumni Association's Founders' Day Faculty Service Achievement Award. Founders' Day is ASU's signature event honoring the changemakers whose pioneering achievements and vision have shaped ASU's spirit of excellence and innovation. [Read the full story and meet the other honorees.](#)

Attend the Founders' Day celebration hosted by the ASU Alumni Association on March 17. [Event details and purchase tickets.](#)

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## **Astronomical and planetary sciences major Rose Ferreira awarded national fellowship**



Congratulations to Rose Ferreira, selected for the Brooke Owens Fellowship class of 2022! Rose, a senior majoring in astronomical and planetary sciences, will work at NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center in Greenbelt, Maryland for a 12-week internship matched with an executive-level mentor who will support and help launch her career. [Read the full story and meet other ASU fellows](#)



## **Lindy Elkins-Tanton has head in the stars, feet on the ground**

School of Earth and Space Exploration professor and Vice President of Interplanetary Initiative Lindy Elkins-Tanton, was recently chosen as one of four

Regents Professors for 2022. In addition to being the PI for the Psyche mission, Elkins-Tanton is a member of the National Academy of Sciences, has written six books, was once a competitive show jumper, ran a sheep farm, led field expeditions to Siberia and trained border collies! [Read more](#)

## Hilairy Hartnett accepts international award for research in marine, aquatic sciences



Research led by school professor Hilairy Hartnett is being honored with the 2022 John Martin Award from the Association for the Sciences of Limnology and Oceanography (ASLO). This award recognizes a paper in aquatic sciences that is judged to have had a high impact on subsequent research and that has led to a fundamental shift in understanding. [Read more](#)

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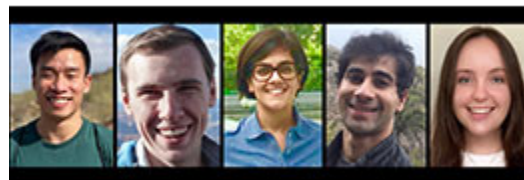
## Mentorship program to address graduate student inclusion

The College of Liberal Arts and Sciences recently funded a project called Mutually Enriching Mentorship which will help faculty

to understand differences in student experiences and perceptions, and how their goals might be different from what the faculty members' goals were when they were graduate students. The program will prioritize shifting the culture and practice of mentoring toward more inclusive and mutually beneficial relationships. [Read more](#)

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## 2022 Nininger Travel Award recipients announced



The Buseck Center for Meteorite Studies and the School of Earth and Space Exploration are pleased to announce the

winners of the 2022 Nininger Student Travel Award. The goal of this award is to support attendance of undergraduate and graduate students to the annual Lunar

and Planetary Science Conference so that they can present their latest research.

[Meet the awardees](#)



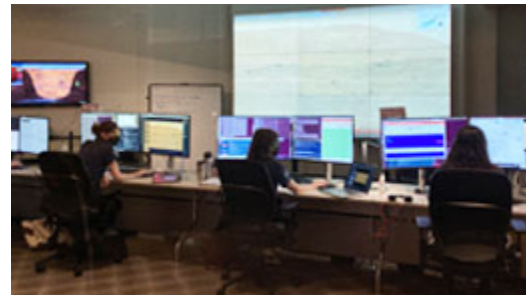
## Now accepting nominations for CubeSat Delivery Prize

Interplanetary Initiative is now accepting nominations for its 2022 CubeSat Delivery Prize. The prize will recognize an outstanding achievement by a novice team launching a CubeSat to encourage new

groups and underrepresented people and schools to engage in space education and promote CubeSat education. [Read more](#)

## Lab of the month

Located on the ASU Tempe campus, in a glass-walled room in the lobby of Interdisciplinary Science and Technology Building IV, is the Mars Mission Operations (mission ops). Mission ops is equipped with large monitors showcasing the latest



images from Mastcam-Z and the Mars 2020 mission. Visitors to the lobby can often see the team hard at work, assessing and reviewing data received from the rover Perseverance. Data is archived, making sure all of the images that were commanded are downlinked, and checking for image focus, saturation and pointing of the cameras. Ultimately, this team is also responsible for creating the image mosaics and videos of Mars for the science team and the public. [Check out panoramas and mosaics from Mastcam-Z.](#)

## Events



## Virtual Night Sky

Join the ASU Marston Exploration Theater presenters on **Wednesday, March 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 [March 9](#) and [March 23](#).

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## Sun Devil Giving Day March 17

Save the date for ASU Sun Devil Giving Day, Thursday March 17. This event is just around the corner! To learn more about our scholarship funds and ways to donate, please visit our [school's Giving webpage](#).



## Alumni Announcements

### Alumni: Keep it current!

Join us on [LinkedIn](#) and [update your contact information](#) so you can receive the latest School and university news, exclusive career and professional development opportunities, unique ASU experiences, invitations to special events and much more!

**ASU** School of Earth and  
Space Exploration  
Arizona State University

