

The American Astronomical Society's Division of Planetary Sciences Professional Culture and Climate Subcommittee (PCCS)

Julie A. Rathbun¹, rathbun@psi.edu twitter.com/LokiVolcano
Nancy J. Chanover², Sarah M. Hörst³, Cristina A. Thomas^{1,4}, Serina Diniega⁵, Jennifer Piatek⁶, Edgard Rivera-Valentin⁷, Kathleen E. Mandt⁸, Frank Marchis⁹, and Matthew Tiscareno⁹, ¹Planetary Science Institute, ²New Mexico State University, ³Johns Hopkins University, ⁴Northern Arizona University, ⁵Jet Propulsion Laboratory, California Institute of Technology, ⁶Central Connecticut State University, ⁷USRA/LPI/Arecibo Observatory, ⁸JHU/APL, ⁹SETI, ¹⁰Unistellar

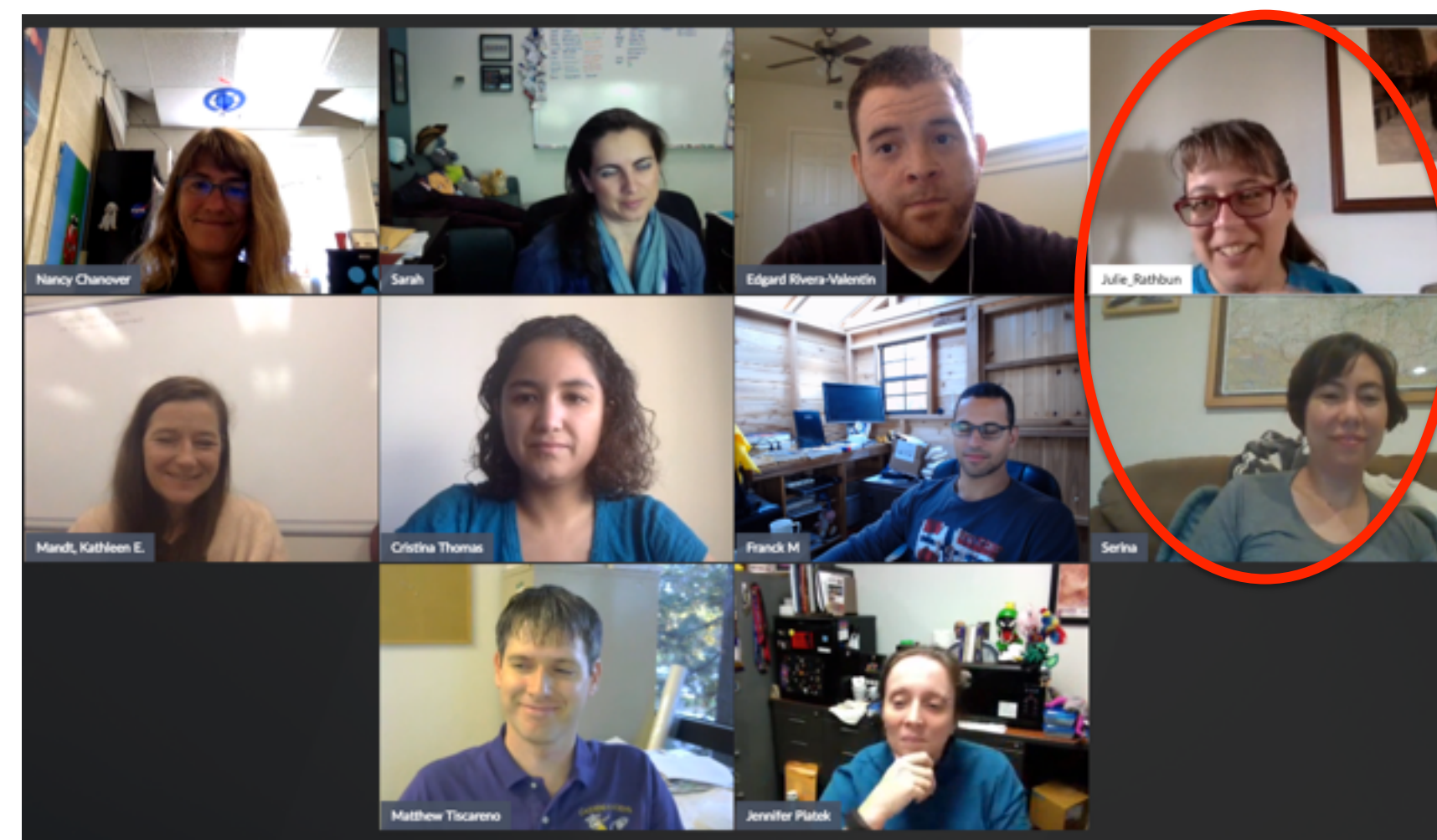
History and Mission of the PCCS

The PCCS formed in March 2016 in an effort to explore the broad issues surrounding inclusion in planetary science.

The mission of the PCCS is to consider and recommend actions that the DPS Committee can take to promote and ensure a broadly inclusive professional community characterized by respect, honesty, and trust, so that people of diverse backgrounds are, and perceive themselves to be, safe, welcomed and enabled to thrive as planetary scientists.

Contact Us

- Julie and Serina (circled) are here
- Website: <https://dps.aas.org/leadership/climate>



2017 DPS meeting in Provo, Utah



Plenary talk by Dr. William A. Smith of the Department of Education, Culture, & Society and the Ethnic Studies Program at the University of Utah arranged by PCCS

“The Long-Term Effects of Racial Microaggressions on People of Color in STEM”

More diverse group of Plenary Speakers and Award Winners

4 of the 6 Prizes awarded to women, including only the 2nd Urey Prize ever awarded to a woman

6 of the 13 Plenary Speakers were women, including 2 prize winners

Plenary Speakers



David Brain
Univ. of Colorado, Boulder



Michele Dougherty
Imperial College London



Candice Hansen
Planetary Science Institute



Sarah Hörst
Johns Hopkins Univ.



Andrew Ingersoll
Caltech



Thomas Greathouse
SwRI



Tristan Guillot
Obs. de la Côte d'Azur



William Smith
Univ. of Utah



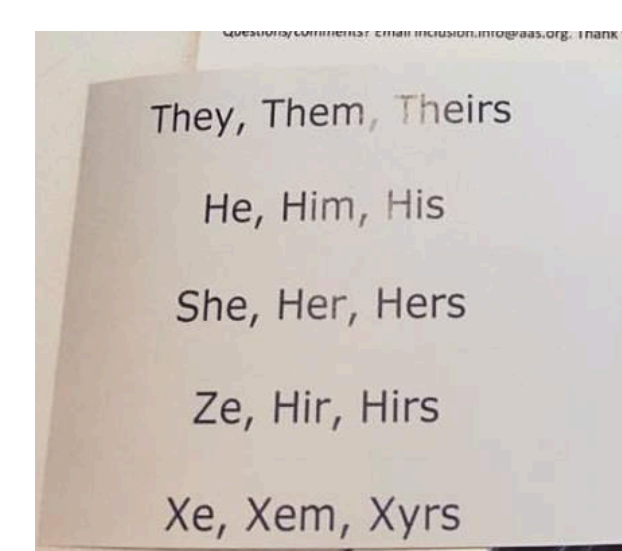
Linda Spilker
JPL



Matthew Tiscareno
SETI Institute



Amaury Triaud
Univ. of Cambridge



- Pronoun stickers for badges.
- Extra-large badges for better readability.
- Networking events for LGBTQIA scientists & for Scientists of Color
- Updated chairs' breakfast to include discussion of inclusivity

2017 Recommendations to the DPS

1. Ensure that the DPS meetings feature a diverse group of plenary speakers
2. Clarify the definition of harassment on the DPS meeting signage and website.
3. Work with the AAS meetings team to ensure accessibility of the meeting location.
4. Ensure that the DPS meeting session chairs are trained on how to encourage a diverse and inclusive session.
5. Continue to involve the PCCS in the development and analysis of the DPS meeting surveys.
6. The DPS Committee should keep records and conduct regular tests of diversity in meetings, awards, publications, etc.
7. The DPS Committee, Prize Committee, SOC Chair and other relevant Subcommittees should undergo implicit bias training.

Current Projects

- Reviewing the Survey results from the 2017 DPS meeting
- Assisting the AAS Working Group on Accessibility and Disability (WGAD) with Accessibility Guidelines for Astronomy and Astrophysics Meetings
- Recommending Implicit Bias workshop provider for the DPS and Prize Committees
- Creating an Inclusivity reading list
- Removing barriers to AAS membership (requirement of signatures from current members)
- Choosing speaker for Diversity and Inclusivity Plenary at 2018 DPS meeting in Knoxville, TN

What can you do to help?

- Fill out surveys after meeting, particularly DPS, and include positive as well as negative comments
- Attend Bystander Intervention Training (hosted by Moses Milazzo and USGS and offered at LPSC and AGU)
- Fill out demographic information requested by professional organizations and the NASA NSPIRES system
- Pay attention to other axes of underrepresentation in planetary exploration: besides gender, consider race, disability, sexuality, etc. Note who is included and who isn't.
- Get involved! Join and participate in professional organization leadership, committees, etc.
- Encourage others to get involved
- Contact us with ideas and/or concerns (rathbun@psi.edu)

