BROADENING OUR COMMUNITY
THROUGH A NASA PLANETARY GEOLOGIC MAPPING WORKSHOP
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ABSTRACT

Following helpful discussion with colleagues during and after the last Planetary Geologic Mappers meeting, we have proposed to offer a workshop in planetary geologic mapping in Flagstaff, AZ, in June, 2021. The location was proposed on the grounds that it provides multiple planetary geologic analogs, subject matter expertise by personnel from local institutions, and coordination with the 2021 Planetary Geologic Mappers meeting. If funded, the workshop activities would include: pre-workshop exercises; in-classroom mapping exercises using analog and digital technologies; field excursions to compare mapping results with ground-truth and enable map revision; synthesis of the results into a planetary geologic map; and presentation of the maps for discussion and critique, both by workshop participants and the larger Flagstaff geoscience community. As a result, the workshop would provide critical experience with both terrestrial and planetary sites to planetary geologists and mappers. The outcome would develop skill in and appreciation for planetary geologic mapping as a fundamental tool in planetary exploration.

In the event that this proposed workshop cannot be held in person due to continued restrictions on public gatherings and requirements for continued physical distancing, we have proposed to use our experience in on-line / remote education to provide this workshop remotely. All team members are currently involved in on-line instruction and are continuing to learn how to teach, instruct, and effectively interact in educational settings using on-line technologies. We would further develop our on-line instructional capabilities during continued physical distancing and leverage this knowledge in offering an on-line workshop if necessary.