

JPL' s Strategic Plan for Solar System Exploration

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As NASA' s lead center for solar system exploration, JPL is responsible for the design, implementation, launch and operation of NASA' s large strategic missions. JPL also competes for NASA medium-size New Frontiers and smaller-size Discovery, "cubesat" and "smallsat" missions. The Laboratory also contributes scientific instruments to US and international missions via the announcement of opportunity proposal process that is conducted by NASA. JPL also develops enabling technologies using funds provided by NASA, non-NASA US agencies, and JPL internal funds. The decisions that lead to the portfolio of missions, science instruments and technologies are based upon the most current decadal survey that is created every ten years by the US National Research Council (NRC) at the request of NASA. The refrain "we follow the decadal" is often heard at NASA, JPL and throughout the US solar system exploration community. In this talk, I will summarize the key elements of the current NRC decadal survey called "Visions and Voyages," and show how the portfolio of JPL missions, instruments and technologies relate to the recommendations of "Vision and Voyages."

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