Meet the Authors

John W. Delano is a Distinguished Teaching Professor in the Department of Earth and Atmospheric Sciences at the University at Albany (State University of New York). Since earning his PhD at Stony Brook University in 1977, his research has focused on the composition and origin of lunar picritic volcanic glasses, the oxidation of the Earth’s upper mantle through time, and the bombardment history of the Moon. He is currently the associate director of the New York Center for Astrobiology (NASA Astrobiology Institute program) at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute and four other participating institutions (Syracuse University, University of Arizona, University of North Dakota, and University at Albany).

Timothy L. Grove is a professor of geology at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. His major interest is in understanding the chemical differentiation processes that have led to the formation of the crust and mantle of the Earth, Moon, Mars, and meteorite parent bodies. He and his students do high-pressure, high-temperature melting experiments on lunar basalts and glasses to place constraints on the thermal history and deep structure of the Moon. His interest in the Moon began at Harvard in 1972 when he and his fellow students were given the opportunity to work on lunar samples returned by the Apollo and Luna missions.

Michael J. Krawczynski is a graduate student in the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and Woods Hole Oceanographic Institute Joint Program in Geology and Geophysics. His research is based on high-pressure experiments used to simulate conditions for magma genesis and processing in the Earth and Moon. He received his bachelor’s degree in geochemistry from Brown University in 2005, where his interest in planetary differentiation started. His dissertation work focuses on the internal structure of the Moon and the dynamic processes that led to lunar volcanism well after magma-ocean solidification.

Paul G. Lucey is a professor at the Hawai’i Institute of Geophysics and Planetology at the University of Hawai’i in Honolulu. His research focuses on the nature and origin of the crusts of the Moon and planets using the tools of remote sensing. Much of his work is in the derivation of quantitative geochemical information from remote sensing, and he has produced maps of lunar mineralogy and chemistry as a result. His interest in volatiles on the Moon began by making astronomical observations while searching for evidence for water-bearing minerals at possible sites of comet impacts. This interest continues today through participation in space missions that investigate the lunar poles.

Marc D. Norman is a Senior Fellow in the Research School of Earth Sciences of the Australian National University. His research interests include early planetary differentiation, lunar impact history, and mantle geochemistry, with a current focus on the timing of magma-ocean crystallization on the Moon, the astrophysical setting of terrestrial planet formation, the compositions of the crust and mantle of Mars, and the Late Heavy Bombardment. A native Tennessean, he earned a PhD from Rice University in 1987. Recently he served on the steering committee for the first Decadal Plan for Australian Space Sciences and as chair of the Geological Society of Australia’s Specialist Group in Planetary Geoscience.

G. Jeffrey Taylor received his undergraduate degree in physics from Colgate University and his PhD in geology and geophysics from Rice University. He is currently a research professor in the Hawai’i Institute of Geophysics and Planetology at the University of Hawai’i. Dr. Taylor has done extensive work on the mineralogical and chemical makeup of lunar samples and meteorites, publishing over 160 refereed articles. His main interests are in basic planetary science and in resource exploration and utilization to support the human settlement of space. He is a member of the Mars Odyssey Gamma-Ray Spectrometer Team and past chair of the Lunar Exploration Analysis Group. With Linda Martel (Hawai’i Institute of Geophysics and Planetology), he writes and publishes an online science magazine, Planetary Science Research Discoveries (www.psrd.hawaii.edu).

Mark A. Wieczorek is a research scientist at the Institut de Physique du Globe de Paris, in Paris, France. His work is concerned primarily with lunar geophysics, the analysis of planetary gravitational fields and topography, and impact cratering. He is currently a co-investigator of the lunar gravity mapping mission GRAIL, the Chandrayaan-1 X-ray Spectrometer, the ExoMars Heat Flow and Physical Properties Package, and the BepiColumbo Laser Altimeter.

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