

MAVEN Postdoctoral Researcher in Mars Magnetic Fields

Applications are now being accepted for a Postdoctoral Research Associate, funded through the University of Maryland College Park (UMCP) and the Center for Research and Exploration in Space Science and Technology (CRESST), to work in the Planetary Magnetospheres Laboratory of the NASA Goddard Space Flight Center (GSFC) investigating Mars magnetic fields using data from the MAVEN (Mars Atmosphere and Volatile EvolutionN) mission.

The MAVEN spacecraft arrives at Mars in September 2014. MAVEN will study the upper atmosphere and ionosphere, atmospheric interaction with the Sun and solar wind, and the loss of atmosphere to space. Collaborating onsite at GSFC with scientists in the Solar System Exploration Division, the candidate will work directly with the Magnetometer Investigation, participating in data analysis and scientific studies, leading to publication of results in scientific journals.

The MAVEN primary mission will last one Earth year from the start of the science mapping phase in November, with an expectation that there may be an extended mission. The appointment will be initially for one year, with the possibility of renewal in subsequent years. Applicants may be at first year post-doc level or may be more senior.

Candidates should have a Ph.D. in a relevant discipline with experience conducting scientific research related to the Mavem science objectives or the types of instruments included in the MAVEN science payload. Disciplined IDL and Fortran programming skills, demonstrated scientific writing ability, and experience in acquisition and analysis of data (especially magnetometer data) from space flight instruments are highly desirable.

Minority candidates are encouraged to apply. Each applicant should send a Curriculum Vita, list of publications, statement of research interests, and contact information for three references to:

MAVEN
CRESST/UMCP
Mail Code 660.8, NASA/GSFC
Greenbelt, MD 20771, or
Via e-mail to virginia.c.peles@nasa.gov

Information regarding the MAVEN mission is found at <http://lasp.colorado.edu/maven> and www.nasa.gov/maven. Information on the Planetary Magnetospheres Laboratory is found at <http://science.gsfc.nasa.gov/solarsystem/magnetospheres>. For information on CRESST and the University of Maryland's Department of Astronomy, please contact Tracy Huard (thuard@astro.umd.edu). The position is available immediately.

The University of Maryland is an equal opportunity employer. All applications received by September 1, 2014 will receive full consideration.