

WORKING GROUP FOR PLANETARY SYSTEM NOMENCLATURE (NOMENCLATURE DU SYSTEME PLANETAIRE)
(Committee of the Executive Committee)

PRESIDENT: P.M. Millman. VICE-PRESIDENT: H. Masursky.
MEMBERS: B.Yu. Levin, D. Morrison, T.C. Owen, G.H. Pettengill, V.V. Shevchenko,
B.A. Smith, V.G. Tejfel', E.A. Whitaker.
CONSULTANTS: J.M. Boyce, W.E. Brunk, K.P. Florenskij, A.M. Komkov.

The Working Group is assisted by five nomenclature Task Groups. These prepare the detailed lists of names for discussion by the WGPSN. The membership of the Task Groups is listed below:-

MOON V.V. Shevchenko (Chairman), A. Dollfus, F. El-Baz, K.P. Florenskij, H. Masursky, P.M. Millman, S.K. Runcorn, E.A. Whitaker.

MERCURY D. Morrison (Chairman), M.E. Davies, A. Dollfus, K.P. Florenskij, O.J. Gingerich, J.E. Guest.

VENUS G.H. Pettengill (Chairman), D.B. Campbell, R.M. Goldstein, M.Ya. Marov, H. Masursky.

MARS B.A. Smith (Chairman), A. Dollfus, M.Ya. Marov, D.Ya. Martynov, H. Masursky, S. Miyamoto, C. Sagan.

OUTER SOLAR SYSTEM T.C. Owen (Chairman), K. Aksnes, M.S. Bobrov, A. Brahic, M.E. Davies, N.P. Erpylev, H. Masursky, B.A. Smith, V.G. Tejfel'.

The seventh meeting of the WGPSN was held in Budapest, Hungary, 6 June, 1980, and the eighth meeting in Bath, England, 16 April, 1981. The ninth meeting is scheduled for 16 August, 1982 in Patras, Greece.

It has been noted that the WGPSN has lacked a direct contact with the People's Republic of China and steps are being taken to correct this.

Guidelines for naming newly-discovered satellites of the planets in the outer solar system have been formulated. The following names have been assigned:-

Jupiter XIV	1979 J1	Adrastea
Jupiter XV	1979 J2	Thebe
Jupiter XVI	1979 J3	Metis.

General guidelines have also been established for naming topographical features on the solid surfaces of the satellites in the outer solar system. In addition to words associated with the myths surrounding each satellite name the following categories have been used for names on seven of the satellites of Saturn - MIMAS, Morte Darthur; ENCELADUS, Arabian Nights; TETHYS, Odyssey; DIONE, Aeneid; RHEA, Creation Myths; HYPERION, Sun and Moon Dieties; IAPETUS, Song of Roland.

Initial notation for newly discovered planetary rings has been outlined in conformity with the notation used for other discoveries in the solar system.

Examples of the recommended preliminary notations are:-

1982 U8R for the eighth ring discovered in 1982 around Uranus;
1984 N1R for the first ring discovered in 1984 around Neptune.

A "GAZETTEER of Planets and Satellites (as approved by the International Astronomical Union)" is nearing completion and will contain approximately 3400 names used on 18 planetary bodies. This is a joint effort of the Working Group, assisted by the Task Groups. The detailed lists of names added since the last General Assembly in Montreal, 1979, will be published in Transactions of the I.A.U. Vol. XVIII B.

P.M. MILLMAN
President of IAU/WGPSN