

National Aeronautics and Space Administration

Headquarters
Washington, DC 20546-0001



March 28, 2008

Reply to Attn of: SMD/Planetary Science Division

Mr. Paul Withers
Center for Space Physics
Boston University
725 Commonwealth Avenue
Boston, MA 02215-1401

Dear Mr. Withers:

Thank you for submitting the research proposal entitled "Development of a Mars ionosphere model with time-dependent solar forcing for studies of solar flare effects" (NASA Proposal Number 07-MFRP07-0008) to the NASA Headquarters Mars Fundamental Research Program (MFRP) in response to NNH07ZDA001N (ROSES-2007). I am pleased to inform you that your proposal has been selected for funding in fiscal year (FY) 2008.

All awards concerning this investigation will be to your institution. You and your institution will be held responsible by NASA for carrying out the investigation. These responsibilities are described in the NRA and will be established in more detail in the subsequent award. The attached Program Status Summary outlines the details of the management information for your selected investigation. NASA will list the titles of all proposals and associated Principal Investigators that were selected for funding in response to this opportunity on the NSPIRES Web site, which is located at: <http://nspires.nasaprs.com/>. At this site, click on the link to "Solicitations," then click on "Past Solicitations," and then select "2007" to view the posting of the program name proposals selected.

Each solicited full proposal is reviewed by several external and panel reviewers prior to the MFRP Review Panel meeting. During the panel meeting each proposal is discussed at length and rated as to the scientific merit, relevance, and cost effectiveness of the proposal with respect to the objectives of the MFRP program. It is the panel's consensus evaluation of a proposal that forms the primary basis for selection or rejection. The summary evaluation of your proposed research was e-mailed to you in December/January and hope that information was useful to you in any future proposal submissions.

If your funded amount is less than 80% of that proposed, you are required to provide a revised budget, with original signature of PI and Institution Official. Your revised budget should be for the number of years and at the budget level listed in the Program Status Summary. Note that your budgets should aim for these precise amounts, or slightly higher than these approved levels, because in no case will funding be provided at levels higher than the budget levels, even \$1.

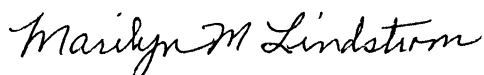
Opportunities for public outreach are provided by NASA Headquarters Press Releases and Space Science Updates – two venues for communicating recent, NASA-funded, research results that have broad, general appeal directly to the public. You are encouraged to submit important, new results to your Discipline Scientist to be considered for these forums. Public interest in NASA science is usually quite high and Headquarters Releases and Space Science Updates are two highly successful tools for increasing the visibility of NASA-sponsored research. You are also encouraged to send your Discipline Scientist preprints and reprints (electronic or hard copy) of publications arising from NASA-sponsored research. A well-informed Discipline Scientist can be a powerful advocate for a research program.

All publications of any material based on or developed under NASA sponsored projects should conclude with an appropriate acknowledgement. Please see the Guidebook for Proposers, Section F.14 on how NASA is to be acknowledged in publications.

If you have additional questions about the initiation of your grant or contract, please contact Dr. David Nava, Operations Manager for Program Implementation, on (301) 286-5483, or preferably via e-mail at David.F.Nava@nasa.gov. Also, if a revised budget is needed, please mail the original signatures revised budget plus one copy directly to Dr. Nava at NASA Goddard Space Flight Center, Code 691, Greenbelt, MD 20771.

If you have questions concerning the evaluation of your proposal or the MFRP program, please contact me on (202) 358-1254 or via e-mail at marilyn.lindstrom-1@nasa.gov.

Cordially,



Marilyn Lindstrom
Discipline Scientist
Mars Fundamental Research/MESSENGER Mission PS
Astromaterials Curation and EPO
Planetary Science Division
Science Mission Directorate

Enclosure

cc: Office of Sponsored Programs

PROPOSAL STATUS SUMMARY

Proposal Number: 07-MFRP07-0008

Principal Investigator: Paul Withers
Boston University

Proposal Title: Development of a Mars ionosphere model with time-dependent solar forcing for studies of solar flare effects

Program: Mars Fundamental Research

Proposal Status: Accept Proposal

Tentative Funding Levels:

FY 2008: \$84,277

FY 2009: \$87,212

FY 2010: \$92,541

Note: For all tentative funding, the Fiscal Year (FY) 2008 amount constitutes commitment by NASA, while amounts for FY 2009 and FY 2010 (if applicable) are projections for planning purposes. Continuation of funding for years after FY 2008 will be contingent on the demonstration of satisfactory progress as described in your annual progress report and available funding. Legally binding obligations can only be authorized by NASA Procurement Officers. You should not incur any obligations against the recommended funding until your award is actually in place.

Award Period:

The award period is 3 year(s). In order to provide timely renewal of multi-year awards, an e-mail version of the progress report giving the most important results of the past year's effort, a summary of the progress made, and a short description of the tasks to be carried out during the upcoming year should be sent to the person named below at least 60 days prior to the award anniversary. Note that the performance period starts at the time that you receive your first funding increment. The NASA Shared Services Center will prompt you to submit this report 10 days before it is due. Your award will include a Point of Contact document which includes address information for all report recipients. Copies of this documentation will go to your Program Scientist.

Award Schedule:

All awards concerning this investigation will be to your institution. The funding for this effort will be provided via a grant originating at the NASA Shared Services Center, and your institution will be contacted shortly by this office regarding the actual grant award. You may determine the status of grant processing by checking the Grant Status Query Page (<http://www.nssc.nasa.gov/grantstatus/>), telephoning the NSSC at 1-877-NSSC123, or e-mailing the NSSC Contact Center (nssc-contactcenter@nasa.gov). (Interagency transfers will still be processed by the NASA Goddard Space Flight Center Procurement Office). You cannot incur any obligations against potential funding until the grant is in place.

For further information, please contact:
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