



**NASA Planetary Data System  
College Student Investigators  
Cohort 2  
2008-10**

**Mentor Fact Sheet**



## Overview

Welcome as a mentor to Planetary Data System ***College Student Investigators!*** The objective of this activity is to involve undergraduate students in research and development projects related to the holdings of NASA's Planetary Data System (PDS). Through PDS ***College Student Investigators***, the PDS strives to prepare the next generation of PDS science investigators and PDS developers.

As a participant in PDS ***College Student Investigators***, the student(s) that you are mentoring will conduct a research and/or development project using PDS data. The Node managers likely will have projects in mind for these students. College Student Investigators begin their association with PDS in Summer 2008. The students will develop a proposal that describes the concept and present this proposal to the PDS Management Council in Spring 2009. They will work on the project with your guidance over the course of the CSI project. They will present their work-in-progress at a professional meeting, such as DPS, AGU or LPSC in 2009. They will prepare a summary paper at the end of the program in May 2010.

The students will be given a handbook that provides details on what is expected of them as a participant in the PDS ***College Student Investigators*** activity. The handbook discusses the development of their proposal, communication (reporting and points of contact), travel, and how to get paid. A timeline with important milestones is given at the end of the handbook.

## Hiring the Students

Who to hire? Preferably juniors, but could be an advanced sophomore (Node manager's discretion). The program provides support for 24 months, so if the student is a junior, this would provide support throughout their senior year.

When will they be hired? The goal is to bring the students on board in June 2008. They will be supported at 10 hours/week during the semester, and **40** hours/week in the summer, through the end of May 2010.

How much will they get paid? \$12/hr

Who pays them? University of Maryland, Baltimore County. They will be hired as "Contingent Employees" of UMBC. They will be required to fill in bi-weekly timesheets. At the end of each reporting period, they must fax their timesheets to UMBC. At the end of each month, they must mail the original, signed timesheets to UMBC.

## Communication

Once per month, PDS ***College Student Investigators*** office will send an e-mail to the mentors as a reminder of the monthly telecon. Mentors are welcome, but not expected, to join the telecon. Questions, suggestions and other input are always welcome to [susan.hoban@nasa.gov](mailto:susan.hoban@nasa.gov).

The schedule of the monthly telecons will be determined once the students are selected. On the Friday preceding the monthly telecon, the students will email the PDS *College Student Investigators* office a short summary of their month's work, which will include accomplishments and challenges they may have faced. The telecon uses the following toll-free number:

Toll-free Telecon Number: 866-626-4124
Participant Passcode: 6006686

## Travel

The students will take at least one, possibly two trips during the course of CSI activity:

- 2009, Professional Conference (DPS, AGU, LPSC)
- 2009 or 2010, CSI meeting in conjunction with PDS MC (Tentative)

The travel expenses for these trips will be paid for as part of the CSI activity. Travel arrangements will be coordinated through the PDS *College Student Investigators* office.

## CSI Contact Information

For what?	Name	Phone	e-mail
PDS CSI office	Susan Hoban	301.286.7980	susan.hoban@nasa.gov
Payroll	Camilla Hyman	410.455.8899	hyman1@umbc.edu

## Timeline

The items listed in the timeline below are those that are relevant for the mentors. Exact dates will be determined as the activity rolls out.

Date	Milestone
June 2008	Students hired. Begin background research for proposal.
Summer 2008	Students become familiar with PDS and consider potential projects.
Fall 2008	Students begin to develop project proposal.
Winter 2009	Student sends draft proposal to CSI office.
Spring 2009	PDS CSI Meeting (TBD). Students present proposal to PDS Management Council.
Spring/Fall 2009	Professional meeting (DPS, AGU, LPSC). Abstract deadlines depend on which meeting the student attends.
Winter/Spring 2010	Students prepare Summary Paper.
May 2010	Students submit Summary Paper.

## Student Information

Please provide this information to the PDS *College Student Investigators* office:

**PDS Node:** \_\_\_\_\_

Student Name:	
e-mail address:	
Mailing address:	
Cell Phone:	
Title of project:	

Student Name:	
e-mail address:	
Mailing address:	
Cell Phone:	
Title of project:	