Living With a Star Program Analysis Group (LPAG)

The Living With a Star Program Analysis Group (LPAG) serves as a community-based, interdisciplinary forum for soliciting and coordinating community analysis and input in support of Living With a Star (LWS) objectives and of their implications for architecture planning and activity prioritization and for future exploration. It provides information and analyses to the NASA Heliophysics Division Director.

The strategic goal of NASA's LWS Program is to develop the scientific understanding necessary to effectively address those aspects of the connected Sun-Earth system that directly affect life and society. The objectives of the Program are to understand and model the variable sources of mass and energy from our Star, the associated reactions of heliospheric and geospace regions, and the implications for life and habitability at the Earth and beyond.

The LPAG enables direct regular communication between NASA and the heliophysics community, and within the heliophysics community, through public meetings that provide opportunities for scientific and programmatic input to the NASA Heliophysics Division. Structurally, two LPAG Co-Chairs and the LPAG Executive Committee (EC) are appointed members whose responsibilities include organizing meetings, collecting and summarizing community input, and the preparation of any subsequent reporting to the NASA Heliophysics Division Director (HDD). The full LPAG consists of all members of the community who participate in the open meetings.

Examples of the broad range of activities that the LPAG may be called on to address include the following and are to be accomplished with the widest possible community involvement:

- Articulate the key scientific drivers for LWS research including focused science topics (FSTs), strategic capabilities, cross-cutting research, and others;
- Evaluate the expected capabilities of potential LWS missions for achieving the science goals of the Program;
- Evaluate LWS goals, objectives, investigations, and required measurements;
- Articulate focus areas for needed targeted research topics and mission technologies; and
- Provide analysis on related activities such as ground-based observing, theory and modeling programs, laboratory heliophysics, suborbital investigations, data archiving, and community engagement.