

**Please Attend a Town Hall Meeting on;**

***Future Directions in  
Geobiology and Low-Temperature Geochemistry***

**When; Wednesday August 17; 1800 to 1900**

**Where: Club H**

**Purpose:** To present the results of a workshop on this topic and request further community input

Given the observed and predicted rates of planetary change, the next decade may well prove crucial for documenting and understanding natural and anthropogenic environmental effects at all spatial scales from the planetary to the microscopic and observations spanning time scales from geologic to those of individual chemical reactions. The disciplines of geobiology and low temperature geochemistry are integral to the overall scientific understanding of, and ultimately prediction of, planetary processes. Given the urgency of the issues, identification and prioritization of research directions responsive to these challenges are extremely timely. To help meet these challenges, exciting new tools are becoming available capable of probing the mechanisms of geochemical and biogeochemical processes. To guide and advance future research programs in these research areas, a "Workshop on Future Directions in Geobiology and Low-Temperature Geochemistry," was held in Washington DC, at the Geophysical Lab, Carnegie Institution of Washington campus on August 27-28, 2010. Thirty leading scientists spanning a broad range of expertise in geobiology and geochemistry attended. The timing of the proposed workshop was designed to provide input to a National Research Council committee tasked to produce a document characterizing "New Research Opportunities in the Earth Sciences" (NROES).

Both the 'future directions' document and the NROES report will help guide NSF funding for the next decade. We are seeking additional feedback on the report. Copies will be available on the web and at the town hall and Please attend and weigh in on future research directions.