

PCE₃ Newsletter



General Announcements

PCE3 is now also on BlueSky! Follow us [@pce3-sci.bsky.social](https://bsky.app/profile/pce3-sci.bsky.social)

Have something you would like to share with the PCE3 community? Feel free to let us know [here](#).

Call for Early Career Committee Applications:

PCE3 is soliciting applications from all interested parties, including students and post-docs, for the PCE3 Early Career Committee!

The aims of the PCE3 Early Career Committee are to (a) promote the development of the next generation researchers and scientists, (b) increase their visibility and engagement through community activities, and (c) identify issues, challenges and opportunities specific to early career individuals and propose action items.

To apply to the PCE3 Early Career Committee, check out the full call [here](#)

Save The Date! Origins 2026. July 5-10, Paris

We are pleased to announce Origins 2026, jointly organized by the International Society for the Study of the Origins of Life – The International Astrobiology Society (ISSOL) and the Astrobiology Commission of the International Astronomical Union (IAU). The meeting will take place from 5 to 10 July 2026 in Paris, France.

This event will bring together experts from diverse fields, including chemistry, biology, planetary science, and astrophysics, to explore the origins of life and habitability on Earth and beyond. Hosted at the prestigious Muséum National d'Histoire Naturelle and Sorbonne University, the conference will highlight interdisciplinary research on the transition from non-living to living systems, focusing on early Earth environments, evolutionary processes, and the search for biosignatures in the universe.

The program will feature the latest discoveries in prebiotic chemistry, the evolution of early life, and habitability across the Solar System and exoplanets, as well as philosophical and historical perspectives. Special emphasis will be placed on the contributions of early-career researchers. This landmark event aims to strengthen international collaborations and advance our understanding of the emergence of life.

Registration and abstract submission will open in October 2025, but you can already sign up here (<https://forms.gle/5MQj1RroTqD5hrMX8>) to receive up-to-date information.

Call for volunteers for the Science Communication team!

Interested in joining the PCE3 Science Communication team? Early- and mid-career scientists are encouraged to join. If you are interested, contact pce3scicomm@gmail.com

Check out the PCE3 Sci. Comm. twitter [here](#) for more updates.

Ask an Author

[Geochemical Settings at an Alkaline Hydrothermal Vent Stabilized Ribose: Evidence from Chemical Garden and Other Simulation Experiments](#) with Dr. Nanishankar V. Harohally

- **Q: What excites you the most about this paper?**
 - **A:** *It is our first interdisciplinary paper including geochemistry and prebiotic chemistry. The thought process to connect the dots between geochemistry and prebiotic chemistry relevant to stabilization of ribose really made us happy.*
- **Q: What was the biggest challenge in your research?**
 - **A:** *The biggest challenge was to find the funding for this research, although we tried hard but nothing crystallized. However, our sincere efforts and determination sailed us to the destination.*

Upcoming Meetings & Events

- **[Astroscience Exploration Network event \(ASEN25\): Astroscience on the African continent](#)** August 27 - 28, 2025. Online
- **[EAI Conference: Impacts and their role in the origin and evolution of life](#)** September 1 - 4, 2025. Nördlingen, Germany

- [AbGradE'25 Symposium: A Symposium for Early-Career Researchers in Astrobiology](#) October 20, 2025. Lisboa, Portugal
- [European Astrobiology Network Association \(EANA\) 2025 Conference](#) October 21 - 24, 2025. Lisboa, Portugal
- [7th Middle East and Africa Regional IAU Meeting \(MEARIM7\)](#) November 11 - 13, 2025. Amman, Jordan
- [Linköping Space Studies Institute \(LSSI\) international conference: Democratisation of Space](#) November 26 – 28, 2025. Norrköping, Sweden
- [American Geophysical Union Annual Meeting 2025](#), December 15 - 19, 2025. New Orleans, LA – USA
- [Rocky Worlds 4](#) January 19 - 23, 2025. Groningen, Netherlands
- [IAUS 404 Symposium: Advancing the Search for Technosignatures](#) March 2 - 6, 2026. Online

News

General News

- [PCE3 is looking to assemble its Early Career Committee!](#)
- [Rethinking "Prebiotic Chemistry" Perspective Article](#)
- [The sugar that sparked life: Why ribose was RNA's first choice](#)
- [The evolution of life may have its origins in outer space](#)

Submitted papers:

- [Calcium Carbonate as a Potential Template for the Origin of Life: Coupled Inorganic–Organic Geochemistry of Travertine Deposit from Puja Hot Spring](#)
 - New paper exploring calcium carbonate as a potential template for origin of life. The paper shows how calcite could preserve prebiotic molecules and other organics in high UV extreme environments.

Funding Opportunities

- [Research Opportunities in Space and Earth Science \(ROSES\)-2025](#) Next deadline: September 15th
- [John Templeton Foundation](#), next OFI due by August 15th
- [Simons Collaborations in Ecology and Evolution, LOI due Oct 16, 2025](#)
- [NSF Chemistry of Life Processes](#), no due date
- [NASA Astrobiology Early Career Collaboration Award, due Oct 1, 2025](#)
- [Lewis and Clark Fund for Exploration and Field Research in Astrobiology, due Nov 3, 2025](#)

Career Opportunities

- [ACS Student Communities Professional Meeting Grant](#) (Sept 15, 2015)
- [Max Planck Postdoc Program \(Sept. 2025\)](#)
- [NASA Postdoctoral Program \(Nov. 1st, 2025\)](#)

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