

# *Cosmic Origins Program Analysis Group*

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Shouleh Nikzad  
COPAG Executive Committee Chair

# What is COPAG's Charge?

The COPAG serves as a community-based, interdisciplinary forum for soliciting and coordinating community analysis and input in support of Cosmic Origin objectives and of their implications for architecture planning and activity prioritization and for future exploration. It provides findings of analyses to the NASA Astrophysics Division Director.

- Science
  - future great observatories (c.f. Astro 2020 decadal survey)
  - Science gaps & precursor science
- Technology
  - Astrophysics technology gaps
  - Biennial Technology Report
- People
  - State of the profession
  - Diversity, Equity and Inclusion

# COSMIC ORIGINS Program Analysis Group EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE: Membership as of February 2024

<u>Member</u>	<u>Term</u>	<u>Institution</u>
Shouleh Nikzad (Chair)	April 2022–October 2024	Jet Propulsion Laboratory
Stephan McCandliss	November 2018–October 2024	Johns Hopkins University
Hsiao-Wen Chen	April 2022–October 2024	University of Chicago
Enrique Lopez Rodriguez	April 2022–October 2024	Stanford University
Sabrina Stierwalt, Vice Chair	November 2020–October 2025	Occidental College
Rachael Beaton	January 2023–October 2025	Space Telescope Science Institute
Sanchayeeta Borthakur	January 2023–October 2025	Arizona State University
Rana Ezzeddine	February 2024–January 2027	University of Florida
Varsha Kulkarni	February 2024–January 2027	University of South Carolina

**Rana**



**Varsha**



*Feb' 24 - Jan '27*

**Shouleh, Chair**



**Steve**



**Hsiao-Wen**



**Enrique**



*Apr' 22 - Oct '24*

**Sabrina, Vice Chair**



**Rachal**



**Sanch**



*Nov '20 - Oct '25*

*Jan' 23 - Oct '25*

***COSMIC ORIGINS Program Analysis Group EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:  
Ex Officio Members and Liaisons***

*Program Support Manager: Stephanie Clark*

*COR Chief Scientist: Peter Kurczynski*

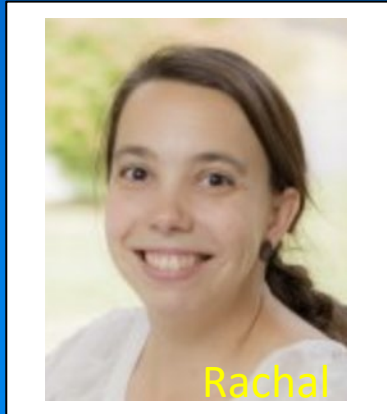
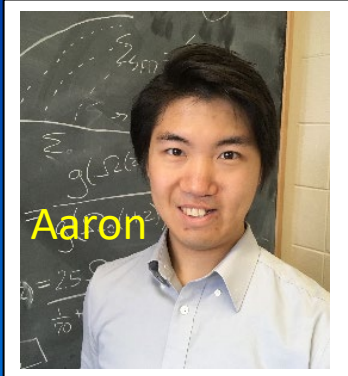
*COR Deputy CS: Swara Ravindranath*

*Program Scientist: Patricia Knezek*

# COSMIC ORIGINS Program Analysis Group

## Science Interest Groups and Science and Technology Interest Groups

Galaxies SIG



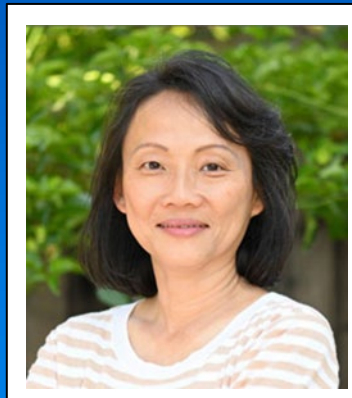
AGN SIG

Stars SIG

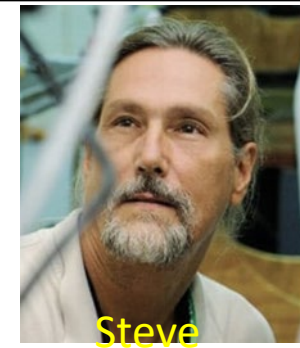
New !



Cosmic Ecosystem SIG



IR STIG



UV/Visible STIG

# COPAG Strategic Plan



Cosmic·Origins·Program·Analysis·Group

## Strategic·Plan· 2023

Final·Draft·--·July·31,·2023



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## Introduction

The Cosmic Origins Program Analysis Group (COPAG) undertook a thorough strategic planning process during Spring 2023. The process was kicked off with a 2-day meeting on May 11 and 12 at the Keck Center Think Tank.

This report is the culmination of this extensive process. This strategic plan will guide COPAG over the next five years and beyond as we transform into a more focused, responsive, and collaborative organization.

Our commitment to community and our desire to serve that community with the highest level of engagement and inclusion will be strengthened by the implementation of this far-reaching plan.

Our executive committee will use this strategic plan as a road map into the future, guiding our analysis, processes, and interactions with the community and NASA. The COPAG-EC will measure progress towards the established goals of this plan periodically in order to ensure our vision is kept on target.

The COPAG-EC and leaders of the COPAG-affiliated Science Interest Groups have a great deal of enthusiasm for this strategic plan. Its implementation will only ensure the successful future and effectiveness of COPAG to serve the astrophysics community and help NASA uncover mysteries of the Universe and discover our cosmic origins.

**Shouleh Nikzad, Ph.D.**  
Chair, COPAG EC

**Manuel Bautista, Ph.D.**  
NASA HQ Program Scientist

**Peter Kurczynski, Ph.D.**  
Chief Scientist, COR

**Sabrina Stierwalt, Ph.D.**  
Vice-chair, COPAG EC

**Swara Ravindranath, Ph.D.**  
Deputy Chief Scientist, COR

# Community Engagement Activities Ongoing and in Planning

## 2024 Winter AAS

- Splinter sessions planned
- Joint PAG participation—Proposed a new format to/with other PAG Chairs to potentially to have more community engagement
  - Cross PAG short presentations
  - Panel with APD Director and PAG EC Chairs
  - Open Q&A
- Participating in the booths to engage the community

## Community Townhall

- Planning a virtual Town Hall to share information with and hear from the community

## Workshops

Working on a series of Cross PAG Workshop toward working with astrophysics community toward HWO



# *Announcing Upcoming UV Science and Spectroscopy Workshop*

*When: Late Spring*

*Where: JPL, Pasadena*

*Who: You*

*More information Coming soon!*



# How can I get involved?

- Visit the Cosmic Origins website

<https://cor.gsfc.nasa.gov>

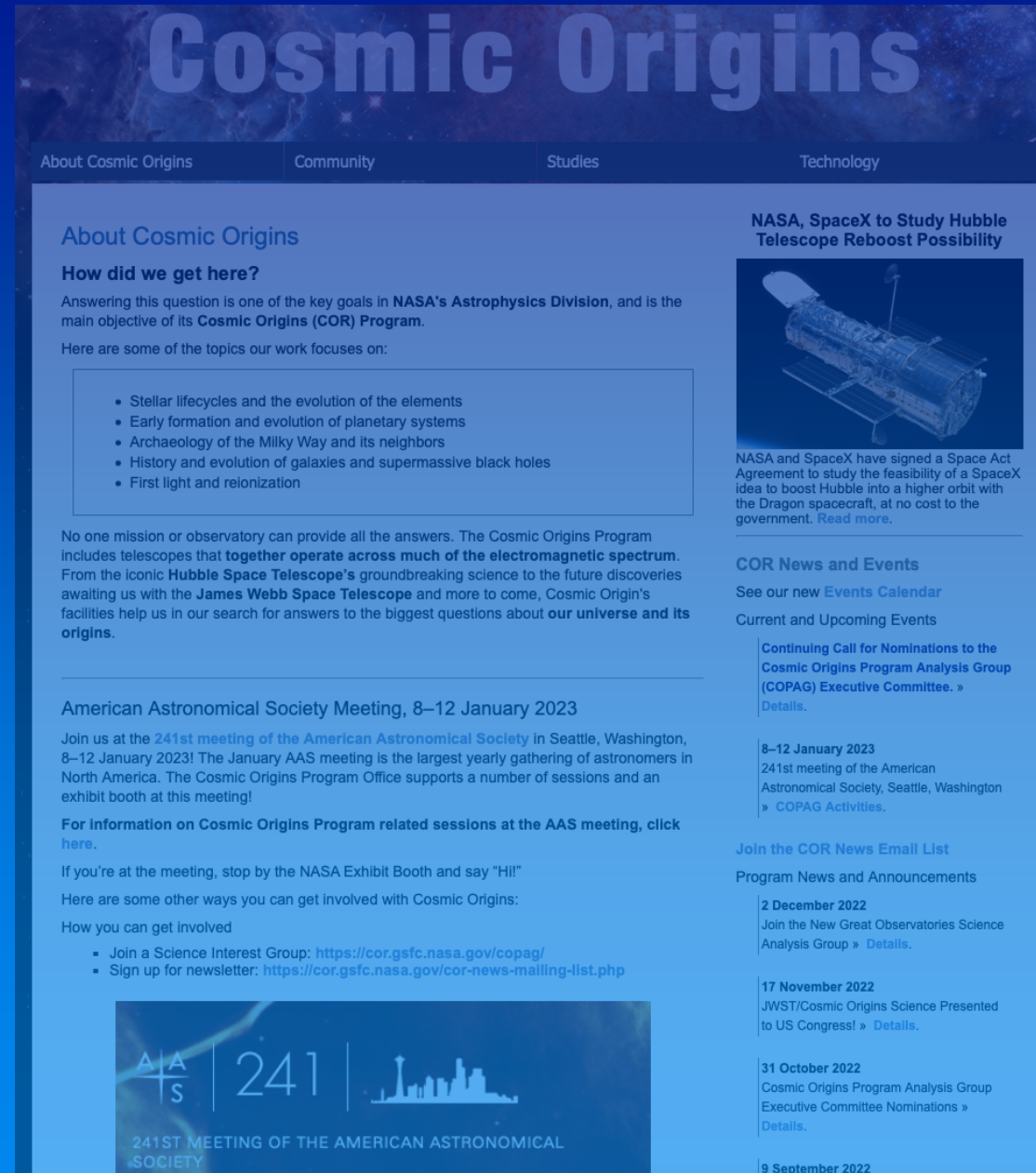
<https://cor.gsfc.nasa.gov/copag/>

- Join the Cosmic Origins email distribution list

[COR-News-join@lists.nasa.gov](mailto:COR-News-join@lists.nasa.gov) with Subject="join"

- Join a Science Interest Group

<https://cor.gsfc.nasa.gov/sigs/sigs.php>



The screenshot shows the Cosmic Origins website with a dark blue background and a starry space scene. The main title "Cosmic Origins" is at the top in large white letters. Below it are navigation tabs: "About Cosmic Origins", "Community", "Studies", and "Technology". The "About Cosmic Origins" section is active, featuring a sub-header "About Cosmic Origins" and a question "How did we get here?". The text explains that answering this question is a key goal of NASA's Astrophysics Division and the Cosmic Origins (COR) Program. A list of topics includes stellar lifecycles, planetary systems, the Milky Way, galaxies, black holes, and first light. A sidebar on the right contains a news item about NASA and SpaceX studying Hubble Telescope reboost possibilities, with an image of the telescope. Below that is a "COR News and Events" section with a calendar of events, including the American Astronomical Society Meeting in January 2023 and several COPAG activities in December 2022 and October 2022. At the bottom of the screenshot is a banner for the 241st meeting of the American Astronomical Society.

<https://cor.gsfc.nasa.gov>