

Dr. David P. O'Brien – Curriculum Vitae

Work Address

Planetary Science Institute
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Home Address

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Current Position

Research Scientist, Planetary Science Institute, Tucson, AZ

Education

August 1998 – May 2004 University of Arizona
Ph.D., Planetary Science

August 1994 – May 1998 Cornell University
B.S., Applied and Engineering Physics

Past Experience

Jan 2005 – Dec 2005 Poincaré Fellow
Dr. Alessandro Morbidelli
Observatoire de la Côte d'Azur, Nice, France

May 2004 – Dec 2004 Postdoctoral Research Associate
Prof. Richard Greenberg
Planetary Sciences Department, University of Arizona, Tucson, AZ

Sep 1998 – May 2004 Graduate Research Assistant
Prof. Richard Greenberg
Planetary Sciences Department, University of Arizona, Tucson, AZ

Sep 1999 – May 2003 Teaching Assistant for 7 Semesters
Profs. Jonathan Lunine, Robert Brown, Renu Malhotra,
and Larry Lebofsky
Planetary Sciences Department, University of Arizona, Tucson, AZ

May 1997 – Aug 1998 Undergraduate Research Assistant
Prof. Steven Squyres
Astronomy Department, Cornell University, Ithaca, NY

Research Interests

Planet formation and the dynamical and collisional evolution of the early Solar System

Collisional and dynamical evolution of asteroids and trans-Neptunian objects

Thermal modeling of geophysical phenomena

Icy satellite geophysics

Honors and Awards

NASA Sagan Fellowship for Early Career Researchers (Jul 2006 – Jun 2009)
Poincaré Fellowship, Observatoire de la Côte d'Azur, Nice, France (Jan 2005 – Dec 2005)
Graduate Teaching Award, University of Arizona Planetary Sciences Department (Spring 2002)
NASA Graduate Student Research Program fellowship (Jul 2000 – Jun 2003)

Funded Grant Proposals

Jul 2006 - Jun 2009 Exploring the Collisional and Dynamical Implications of Current
Outer Planet Migration Models
NASA's Planetary Geology and Geophysics Program
\$183,660
This proposal was selected for the Sagan Fellowship program
(Fellowship includes eligibility for additional \$100,000 in faculty start-up funds)

Mar 2006 - Feb 2009 The Primordial Excitation and Clearing of the Asteroid Belt: Implications
of Current Outer Planet Migration Models
NASA's Outer Planets Research Program
\$188,319

Professional Societies

American Geophysical Union
Division for Planetary Science, American Astronomical Society

Professional Activities

Review panel member for NASA's Planetary Geology and Geophysics program, 2006 and 2007
Review panel member for NASA's Origins of Solar Systems program, 2007
Review panel member for NASA's Outer Planets Research program, 2008
External reviewer for NASA's Origins, Outer Planets Research, Cassini Data Analysis, and Lunar
Advanced Science and Exploration Research programs
External reviewer for the NASA Postdoctoral Program fellowship, 2007
Organizer of the Planetary Science Institute's weekly seminar series, Fall 2006 and Spring 2007
Co-organizer of grant writing seminars for grad students and postdocs, Spring and Fall 2007
Leader of 3-day fieldtrip to Canyon de Chelly in northeast Arizona for PTYS 594a, Planetary Geology
Field Practicum, Spring 2007
Guest lecturer for PTYS 571, Terrestrial Planets, Fall 2006
Manuscript reviewer for *Icarus*, *Meteoritics and Planetary Science*, *ApJ*, *Planetary and Space Science*,
and *PASJ*
Chapter reviewer for the *Asteroids III* book
Editor of the fieldtrip guidebook for PTYS 594a, Planetary Geology Field Practicum, from
Spring 2000 – Spring 2002
Organizer of the University of Arizona Lunar and Planetary Lab's annual Oktoberfest party, Bratfest,
from 2000–2003

Advising/Mentoring

Thesis committee member and co-advisor for Jade Bond, U. Arizona, 2006-present

Mentor for associate scientist Dr. Amara Graps, Planetary Science Institute, 2006-2007

Outreach

Event leader for 2004 regional and state Science Olympiad competitions

Astronomy and planetary science talks at local Tucson schools

Extracurricular Interests

Biking, hiking, backpacking and soccer

Cooking—everything from Italian and French to Indian and Ethiopian

Playing electric bass and building and playing didgeridoos (an ancient Australian wind instrument)

Invited Seminars

The Paucity of Small Craters on Eros and Itokawa: You Can't Explain This One, Yarkovsky. Planetary Science Institute, Tucson AZ, March 19, 2008.

Terrestrial Planet Formation: New Insights and Outstanding Questions. Carnegie Institution of Washington, DTM Friday Astronomy Seminar, February 29, 2008.

Terrestrial Planet Formation in the Solar System and Beyond. Department of Physics and Astronomy, George Mason University, February 27, 2008.

Terrestrial Planet Formation, Water Delivery, and the Early Evolution of the Asteroid Belt. Earth and Planetary Sciences Department, Harvard University, October 29, 2007.

The Origin of Water on Earth. Physics and Astronomy Department, University of British Columbia, April 24, 2007.

High-Resolution Modeling of Terrestrial Planet Formation. Laboratory for Atmospheric and Space Physics, C.U. Boulder, March 1, 2007.

The Delivery of Water from the Asteroid Belt During Terrestrial Planet Accretion. U.C. Berkeley Center for Integrative Planetary Science, January 31, 2007.

Terrestrial Planet Formation with Strong Dynamical Friction. Planetary Science Institute, Tucson AZ, April 26, 2006.

Published Papers

P. Michel, D. P. O'Brien, S. Abe and N. Hirata (2008). Itokawa's Cratering Record as Observed by Hayabusa: Implications for its Age and Collisional History. *Icarus*, in press.

S. J. Kenyon, B. C. Bromley, D. P. O'Brien and D. R. Davis (2008). Formation and Collisional Evolution of Kuiper Belt Objects. *The Solar System Beyond Neptune*, A. Barucci, H. Boehnhardt, D. Cruikshank and A. Morbidelli, eds., University of Arizona Press.

D. P. O'Brien, A. Morbidelli and W. F. Bottke (2007). The Primordial Excitation and Clearing of the Asteroid Belt—Revisited. *Icarus* **191**, pp. 434-452.

- B. Preblich, R. Greenberg, J. Riley and D. P. O'Brien (2007). Tidally Driven Strike-slip Displacement on Europa: Viscoelastic Modeling. *Planetary and Space Science* **55**, pp. 1225-1245.
- D. P. O'Brien, A. Morbidelli and H. F. Levison (2006). Terrestrial Planet Formation with Strong Dynamical Friction. *Icarus* **184**, pp. 39-58.
- D. P. O'Brien, R. Greenberg and J. E. Richardson (2006). Craters on Asteroids: Reconciling Diverse Impact Records with a Common Impacting Population. *Icarus* **183**, pp. 79-92.
- W. F. Bottke, D. Nesvorný, R. E. Grimm, A. Morbidelli and D. P. O'Brien (2006). Iron Meteorites as Remnants of Planetesimals Formed in the Terrestrial Planet Region. *Nature* **439**, pp. 821-824.
- C. D. Neish, R. D. Lorenz, D. P. O'Brien, and the Cassini Radar Team (2006). The Potential for Prebiotic Chemistry in the Possible Cryovolcanic Dome Ganesa Macula on Titan. *International Journal of Astrobiology* **5**, pp. 57-65.
- D. P. O'Brien and R. Greenberg (2005). The Collisional and Dynamical Evolution of the Main-Belt and NEA Size Distributions. *Icarus* **178**, pp. 179-212.
- J. E. Richardson Jr., H. J. Melosh, R. J. Greenberg and D. P. O'Brien (2005). The Global Effects of Impact-induced Seismic Activity on Fractured Asteroid Surface Morphology. *Icarus* **179**, pp. 325-349.
- D. P. O'Brien, R. Lorenz and J. I. Lunine (2004). Numerical Calculations of the Longevity of Impact Oases on Titan. *Icarus* **173**, pp. 243-253.
- D. P. O'Brien and R. Greenberg (2003). Steady-State Size Distributions for Collisional Populations: Analytical Solution with Size-Dependent Strength. *Icarus* **164**, pp. 334-345.
- E. P. Turtle, E. Pierazzo, and D. P. O'Brien (2003). Numerical Modeling of Impact Heating and Cooling of the Vredefort Impact Structure. *Meteoritics and Planetary Science* **38**, pp. 293-303.
- D. P. O'Brien, P. Geissler, and R. Greenberg (2002). A Melt-through Model for Chaos Formation on Europa. *Icarus* **156**, pp. 152-161.
- J. W. Barnes and D. P. O'Brien (2002). Stability of Satellites around Close-in Extrasolar Giant Planets. *The Astrophysical Journal* **575**, pp. 1087-1093.
- G. V. Hoppa, B. R. Tufts, R. Greenberg, T. Hurford, D. P. O'Brien and P. E. Geissler (2001). Europa's Rate of Rotation Derived from the Tectonic Sequence in the Astypalaea Region. *Icarus* **153**, pp. 208-213.

Papers in Progress

- J. Chambers, D. P. O'Brien and A. M. Davis. Accretion of Planetesimals and the Formation of Rocky Planets. *Protoplanetary Dust: The Astrochemical and Cosmochemical Perspectives*, D. Apai and D. S. Lauretta, eds., Cambridge University Press. In review.
- D. P. O'Brien, R. Greenberg, P. Michel and N. Hirata. The Yarkovsky Effect Is Not Responsible for Small Crater Depletion on Eros and Itokawa. In preparation.

Invited Conference Presentations

- D. P. O'Brien, D. R. Davis, S. J. Kenyon and B. C. Bromley (2007). The Collisional Evolution of Small Bodies in the Solar System. 7th Workshop on Catastrophic Disruption in the Solar System, Alicante, Spain.
- D. P. O'Brien (2006). The Collisional Evolution of Trans-Neptunian Objects. International Workshop on Trans-Neptunian Objects: Dynamical and Physical properties, Catania, Italy.
- D. P. O'Brien (2006). Quick Recipes for Making 'Cool' Terrestrial Planets. Invited review talk for the 9th Lunar and Planetary Laboratory Conference, Tucson, AZ.

Recent Conference Presentations

- D. P. O'Brien and A. Morbidelli (2008). The Collisional Evolution of Trojan Asteroids—A Possible Origin of the L4-L5 Asymmetry. Asteroids, Comets, and Meteors Conference, Baltimore, MD.
- S. N. Raymond, D. P. O'Brien, A. Morbidelli and N. Kaib (2008). Building the Terrestrial Planets: Constraining Planetary Accretion in the Inner Solar System. American Astronomical Society, DDA meeting 39, Boulder, CO.
- J. C. Bond, D. S. Lauretta and D. P. O'Brien (2008). Chemical and Dynamical Modeling of Terrestrial Planet Formation. 5th Astrobiology Science Conference, Santa Clara, CA.
- J. C. Bond, D. S. Lauretta and D. P. O'Brien (2008). Composition of Simulated Terrestrial Planets. LPSC 39, abstract no. 1438.
- D. P. O'Brien and R. Greenberg (2007). The Lack of Small Craters on Eros is not due to the Yarkovsky Effect. American Astronomical Society, DPS meeting 39, Orlando, FL, abstract no. 50.06.
- D. P. O'Brien, P. Michel and S. Abe (2007). Interpreting Itokawa's Cratering Record. 7th Workshop on Catastrophic Disruption in the Solar System, Alicante, Spain.
- J. C. Bond, D. S. Lauretta and D. P. O'Brien (2007). Chemical Composition of Model Terrestrial Planets. Gordon Research Conference on Origins of Solar Systems, Mt. Holyoke College, South Hadley, MA.
- J. C. Bond, D. S. Lauretta and D. P. O'Brien (2007). Chemical and Dynamical Modelling of Terrestrial Planet Formation. 70th Meteoritical Society Meeting, Tucson, AZ.
- J. Lunine, A. Graps, D. P. O'Brien, A. Morbidelli, L. Leshin and A. Coradini (2007). Asteroidal Sources of Earth's Water Based on Dynamical Simulations. LPSC 38, abstract no. 1616.
- A. L. Graps, J. I. Lunine, J. Chambers, A. Morbidelli, L. A. Leshin and D. P. O'Brien (2007). The Origin of Water on Mars. EGU General Assembly, Vienna, Austria, abstract no. 10556.
- D. P. O'Brien, A. Morbidelli and W. F. Bottke (2006). The Primordial Excitation and Clearing of the Asteroid Belt—Revisited. American Astronomical Society, DPS meeting 38, Pasadena, CA, abstract no. 13.15.
- D. P. O'Brien, A. Morbidelli and H. F. Levison (2006). Simulations of Terrestrial Planet Formation with Strong Dynamical Friction: Implications for the Origin of the Earth's Water. LPSC 37, abstract no. 2347.
- A. L. Graps, J. I. Lunine, A. Coradini, D. P. O'Brien and A. Morbidelli (2006). Watering the Earth. American Astronomical Society, DPS meeting 38, Pasadena, CA, abstract no. 66.08.
- A. Morbidelli and D. P. O'Brien (2006). The Formation of Terrestrial Planets. European Planetary Science Congress #1, Berlin.
- A. L. Graps, J. I. Lunine, A. Coradini, A. Morbidelli and D. P. O'Brien (2006). Watering the Earth. European Planetary Science Congress #1, Berlin.
- W. F. Bottke, D. Nesvorný, R. E. Grimm, A. Morbidelli and D. P. O'Brien (2006). Iron Meteorites as Remnants of Planetesimals Formed in the Terrestrial Planet Region. LPSC 37, abstract no. 1388.
- D. P. O'Brien, A. Morbidelli and W. F. Bottke (2005). Collisional Evolution of the Primordial Trans-Neptunian Disk: Implications for Planetary Migration and the Current Size Distribution of TNOs. American Astronomical Society, DPS meeting 37, Cambridge, UK, Abstract no. 29.14.
- D. P. O'Brien, A. Morbidelli and W. F. Bottke (2005). Re-Evaluating the Primordial Excitation and Clearing of the Main Belt. Asteroids, Comets, and Meteors Conference, Rio de Janeiro.