THE NASA FACILITY FOR ASTROMATERIALS RESEARCH AT THE JOHNSON SPACE CENTER – A NATIONAL LABORATORY FOR PLANETARY RESEARCH.

J. Filiberto[1], A. Burton[1], T. M. Hahn[2], L. P. Keller[1] , E. Rampe[1], K. Righter[1], and J. I. Simon[1], [1]ARES, Code XI3, NASA-JSC, 2101 NASA Parkway, Houston, TX 77058, USA, [2]Jacobs- JETSII, NASA-JSC, Houston, TX, 77058, USA (Justin.R.Filiberto@nasa.gov).

Introduction: The Astromaterials Research and Exploration Science (ARES) Division at the NASA Johnson Space Center has established the NASA Facility for Astromaterials Research (NFAR) through the NASA Planetary Science Enabling Facilities program. NFAR is designed to provide access to our unique combination of laboratories, instruments, infrastructure, and technical expertise for conducting broad-based world-class planetary research. NFAR enables direct access to both research and curation expertise, to facilitate specialized sample handling and analysis of astromaterials and planetary analog materials. NFAR users from institutions that historically have limited access to or lack in-house analytical or experimental facilities are particularly encouraged to apply. We issue three calls for user proposals each year due the last day of April, July, and November. We award NFAR research projects to users in a competitive peer-reviewed proposal process. NASA-funded research in active PSD R&A proposals is prioritized along with requests from early-career/next-generation scientists, under-represented minorities, and those PIs from minority serving institutions. There is no cost to use the analytical facility, but researchers are required to be in person for analyses. Proposals to use NFAR labs are limited to < 5 pages and focus on the scientific purpose of the investigation and its relevance to NASA PSD, the labs to be accessed, and the time needed for the investigation. More information can be found at: https://ares.jsc.nasa.gov/research/nasa-facility-astromaterials-research/

