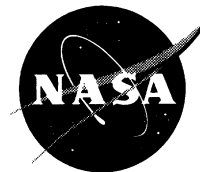


National Aeronautics and  
Space Administration  
**Headquarters**  
Washington, DC 20546-0001



January 9, 2007

Reply to Attn of: Solar System Division

Dr. Paul Withers  
Boston University  
Center for Space Physics  
725 Commonwealth Avenue  
Boston, MA 02215

Dear Dr. Withers:

This letter is to notify you that you have not been selected as a Participating Scientist with the Mars Reconnaissance Orbiter (MROPS) mission. Your proposal entitled "Investigations of the Mars Upper Atmosphere Using MRO ACCEL Data. (06-MROPS06-59)", submitted in response to the solicitation " Mars Reconnaissance Orbiter Participating Scientists " in ROSES-2006, "Research Opportunities in Space and Earth Sciences" NNH06ZDA001N, was reviewed by an external panel and NASA's Planetary Science Division, Science Mission Directorate. A copy of the proposal evaluation summary is included for your information. Note that the evaluation summary represents the consensus opinion of the panel.

This selection is the result of the technical and scientific evaluation of proposals submitted in response to the NASA Research Opportunities in Space and Earth Sciences 2006 (ROSES-2006), NNH06ZDA001N-MROPS, released on January 23, 3006.

If you have any questions concerning the proposal evaluation or the program, please contact me by telephone on 202-358-0294, or email to [stephen.saunders@nasa.gov](mailto:stephen.saunders@nasa.gov).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "R. Saunders".

R. Stephen Saunders  
Program Scientist, Mars Reconnaissance Orbiter Program  
Science Mission Directorate

Enclosure

**MARS RECONNAISSANCE ORBITER PARTICIPATING SCIENTISTS PROGRAM  
EVALUATION OF PROPOSAL SUBMITTED  
IN RESPONSE TO  
NNH06ZDA001N**

**Proposal Number:** 06-MROPS06-0059

**PI Name:** Withers, Paul

**PI Institution:** TRUSTEES OF BOSTON UNIVERSITY

**Proposal Title:** Investigations of the Mars Upper Atmosphere Using MRO ACCEL Data.

ALL PROPOSALS AND REVIEWS ARE PROPRIETARY AND SHOULD BE HANDLED BY THE REVIEWER IN A CONFIDENTIAL MANNER.

COMMENTS ON THIS PAGE MAY BE TRANSMITTED ANONYMOUSLY TO THE PROPOSER.

**BRIEF SUMMARY OF RESEARCH OBJECTIVES:**

Generate and archive latitude-longitude-altitude grid of density, pressure and temperature from MRO ACCEL measurements, and investigate upper atmospheric structure and wave phenomena

**OVERALL GRADE:**

Excellent 5.0	E/VG 4.5	Very Good 4.0	VG/G 3.5	Good 3.0	G/F 2.5	Fair 2.0	F/P 1.5	Poor 1.0
		X						

**INDIVIDUAL CRITERIA FINDINGS**

**Intrinsic Merit**

**Strengths:**

**Major:**

- Provides expanded MRO ACCEL data product generation and PDS archiving
- Provides improved knowledge of atmospheric structure at high altitudes

**Minor:**

- Strong PI commitment to sharing results with the broader community
- Strong team that includes modeling experience

**Weaknesses:**

**Major:**

- None

**Minor:**

- The MRO project is already funding a less extensive effort to reduce and archive the ACCEL data

**Relevance to NASA Objectives**

**Strengths:**

**Major:**

- Defining and understanding the structure of the upper atmosphere of Mars is a key MEPAG goal, and is important for the planning of future missions

**Minor:**

- None

**Weaknesses:**

**Major:**

- None

**Minor:**

- None

**Realistic/Reasonable Cost**

**Strengths:**

**Major:**

- None

**Minor:**

- Generally appropriate for the tasks proposed

**Weaknesses:**

**Major:**

- None

**Minor:**

- Travel support for the entire ACCEL team should be handled by the Team Leader, not a participating scientist

**COMMENTS AND SUGGESTIONS FOR THE PROPOSER.** Adherence to these comments does not constitute a guarantee of future funding.

None.