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.

Sincerely,

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.

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.