

Space Science Seminar
Tuesday, 2014 March 25 10:30am
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**The Antarctic Search for Meteorites 2013-14 Field
Season**

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Since 1976, the Antarctic Search for Meteorites (ANSMET) has recovered more than 25,000 specimens from meteorite stranding surfaces along the Transantarctic Mountains. The ANSMET specimens are currently the only reliable, continuous source of new, non-microscopic extraterrestrial material, and will continue to be until future planetary sample-return missions are successful. The samples already recovered provide essential "ground-truth" concerning the materials that make up the asteroids, planets and other bodies of our solar system, and their continued retrieval is the cheapest and only guaranteed way to recover new things from worlds beyond the Earth. The study of ANSMET meteorites has greatly extended our knowledge of the materials and conditions in the primeval nebula from which our solar system was born, revealed the complex and exotic geologic nature of asteroids.

Collecting meteorites in Antarctica is both a community service and an amazing adventure. This talk will give the highlights of the 2013-14 ANSMET season.

<http://solarscience.msfc.nasa.gov/SpaceScienceSeminars.html>