



The University of Texas at San Antonio™

DATE:
Friday,
March 25, 2022

TIME:
12:00pm-1:30pm CST

LOCATION:
BSE 2.102
Zoom: 921 8560 9255



NASA MIRO CAMEE

CENTER FOR ADVANCED MEASUREMENTS IN EXTREME ENVIRONMENTS

Phone:
(210) 458-4924
Fax:
(210) 458-4469
Email: camee@utsa.edu
Website:
www.utsa.edu/NASA-CAMEE/



PRESENTS:

Danielle Wyrick, Ph.D., Southwest Research Institute

Title: *Pit Craters: Exploring the subterranean spaces of extraterrestrial worlds*

Abstract:

Pit craters are collapse features found on many planetary bodies ranging from terrestrial planets (the Moon, Mars, Venus) to icy moons (Enceladus, Ganymede) to asteroids (Eros, Gaspra). These pit craters can form from several different geologic processes such as lava tubes and dilational faulting, and represent prime targets for exploration. In particular, these subterranean void spaces provide regions for storage of volatiles and minerals (needed for in situ resource utilization) as well as astrobiology (human or otherwise). This presentation will discuss how pit craters form, what their formation means for the underlying void spaces, and the challenges ahead for exploring these planetary cave systems.



The material contained in this document is based upon work supported by a National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) grant or cooperative agreement. Any opinions, findings, conclusions or recommendations expressed in this material are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect the views of NASA.