James W. Head III is a Professor in the Dept of Earth, Environmental & Planetary Sciences at Brown University. He earned an undergraduate degree from Washington & Lee University (BS, 1964) and received his PhD from Brown University in 1969. From 1968 to 1972, while serving at NASA Headquarters he participated in the selection of landing sites for the Apollo program, in training Astronaut crews in geology and surface exploration, in planning and evaluating the package of experiments to be deployed on the Moon, in mission operations in Houston during lunar surface exploration, and in preliminary analysis of the lunar samples returned by the Astronauts. Dr. Head's research centers on the study of geological processes that form and modify the surfaces, crusts and lithospheres of planets, how these processes vary with time, and how such processes interact to produce the historical geological record preserved on planetary bodies. Dr. Head has traveled to China numerous times to present multiple lectures at universities and Chinese Academy of Sciences institutes. While there he meets with students and Chinese colleagues to discuss future lunar and planetary exploration and research. He is a Distinguished Advisor, Macau University of Science & Technology, and Guest Faculty member at the China University of Geoscience-Wuhan. China has embarked on an ambitious and fast-paced robotic lunar and planetary exploration program, including the first lander and rover on the farside of the Moon, lunar sample return missions (Chang'e 5 being recently very successful), a rover on the surface of Mars, and missions to many other destinations in the Solar System. Plans also call for Chinese astronauts to explore the Moon around the end of the decade. What is the scope, significance and direction of the Chinese space program and how does it differ from that of the US and other countries?



Devin Foster Smith is a Postdoctoral Scholar in the School of Earth Sciences at Ohio State University. She graduated with her PhD from The Ohio State University in August 2022. She has continued her career at Ohio State and joined an international research team studying Irish blanket bog. The goal of the project is to characterize and quantify hydrologic and biogeochemical processes within the bog seasonally and on an event basis. Devin contributes to the team's endeavors by studying the biogeochemistry of bog pore and surface waters. Her work connects to her broader research interest of hydrochemical analysis of surface water systems to understand naturally and anthropogenically derived catchment geochemical processes.





