



Dawn and the Asteroid/Meteorite Community

- A mission to the mainbelt has the potential of stimulating renewed vigor in both asteroid and meteorite research in general
- Asteroid and meteorite studies can contribute greatly to the interpretation of the observations of Vesta and Ceres
- Other observations can help plan mission: Moon search, characterization of flybys
- Question is what mechanisms can be established to optimize this synergy. Need to preserve initiative of individual researcher, stimulate innovation and competition yet work cohesively, collaboratively and coherently
- Possible steps to do this are
 - Newsletters
 - Workshops
 - International Program
 - Associated with a scientific society, e.g., STEP
 - Consisting of volunteers, e.g., IJW
 - Guest investigator programs
 - Data analysis programs
- Funding constraints
 - Mission could provide support for some small efforts but not fund salaries so much of work would have to be done on a volunteer basis