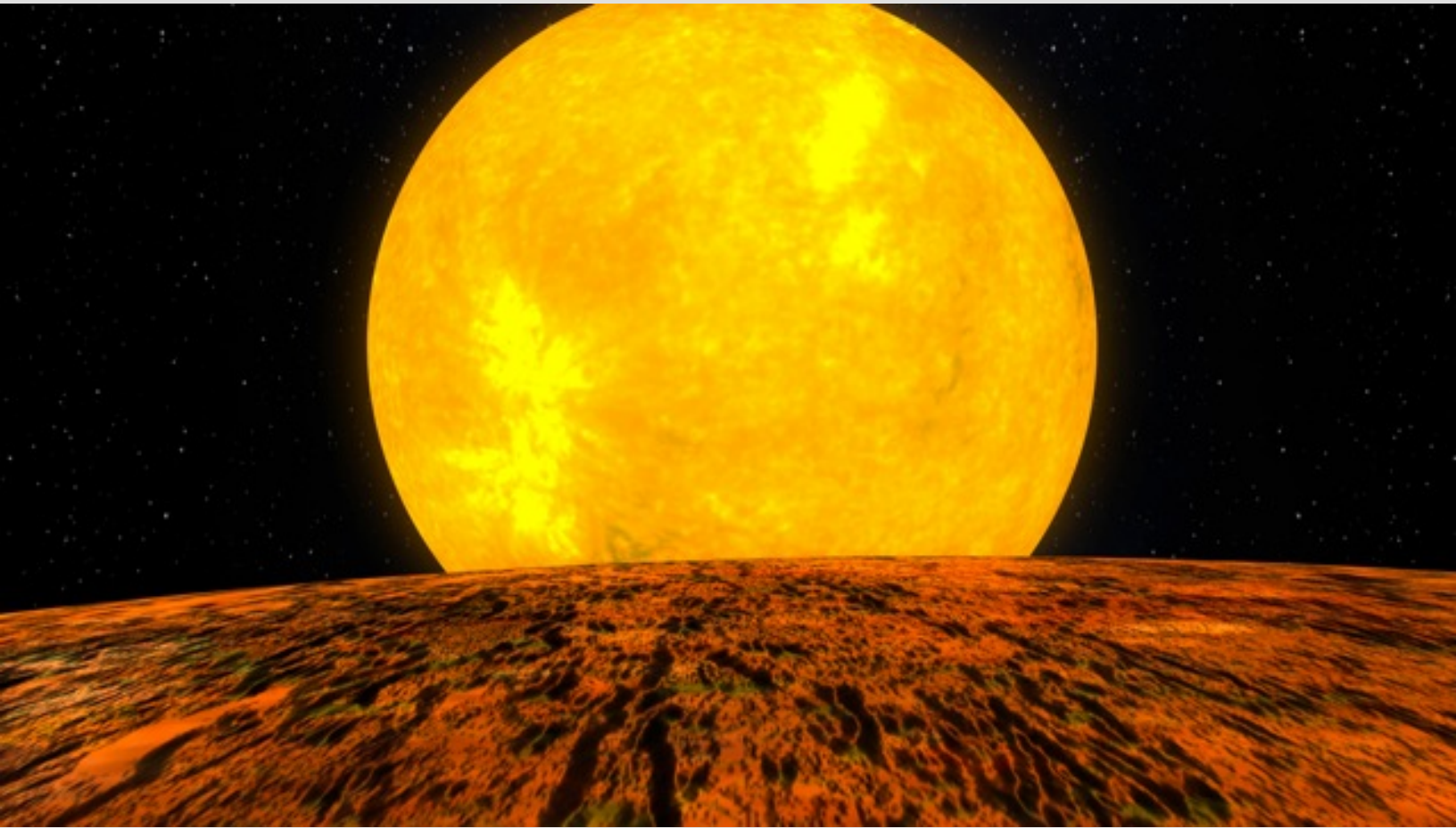


Earth-Size Planets and Intelligent Life in the Universe

A free public lecture by Dr. Geoffrey Marcy, Univ. of California, Berkeley

7:30 pm Monday, May 2, 2011, Prochnow Auditorium at NAU

*Brought to you by NASA's Exoplanet Exploration Program
tickets for this free event will be available at the door or
by request from at StrangeNewWorlds@ipac.caltech.edu*



Science fiction portrays our Milky Way Galaxy as filled with habitable planets populated by advanced civilizations engaged in interstellar trade and conflict. Back in our real universe, Earth-like planets and alien life have proved elusive. Has science fiction led us astray? NASA recently launched a new space-borne telescope, Kepler, dedicated to discovering the first Earth-like worlds around other stars. The first results are startling and profound. How common are worlds that are suitable for life? What properties make a planet livable? How common is life in the universe, especially intelligent life? New telescopic and biological observations are providing the first answers to these questions. Dr. Marcy's planet-hunting team has confirmed the highest number of exoplanet discoveries to date.

