

Third Announcement - April 5, 2011
Exploring Strange New Worlds:
From Giant Planets to Super Earths
High Country Conference Center, Flagstaff, AZ May 1-6
Co-hosted by the NASA Exoplanet Exploration Program and
the NASA Exoplanet Science Institute

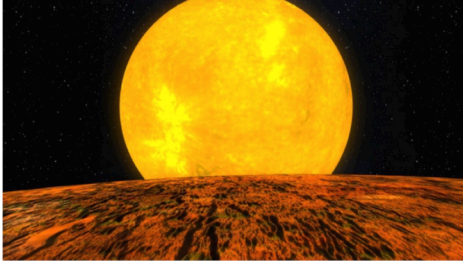
Final Conference Agenda Available

The final conference agenda is available [here](#). The agenda includes times and speaker names for the invited and contributed talks. In addition more than 100 posters will be exhibited at the conference. Information for presenters can be found [here](#).


Electronic Posters due April 22

If you have a poster presentation at the conference, we are asking you to submit an electronic “advertisement” of your poster. These will be displayed on screens at the conference center during the week. Click to [submit electronic posters](#).

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
you can request them 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.



Geoff Marcy lecture, Monday evening,

Geoff Marcy of UC Berkeley will present a public lecture on “Earth-Size Planets and Intelligent Life in the Universe” on Monday evening, May 2 at 7:30 pm. This event will take place at Prochnow Auditorium on the NAU campus, across the street from the conference center. Tickets are required for this free event and will be available at the conference registration table.

Banquet/Excursion tickets still available

The following events/excursions are not included in the registration fee and require that you purchase tickets. Click on the following links for information on conference [events](#) and [excursions](#).

- [Conference field trips on Wednesday afternoon, May 4](#) There are fewer than 10 spaces left for the Meteor Crater trip and limited spaces for the trip to Anderson Mesa. Tickets (\$25 pp per trip) to cover bus transportation/box lunch are available through the registration site.
- [Conference banquet on Thursday evening, May 5](#) Enjoy dinner at the Forest Highlands Golf Club. Our featured speaker is Bryan Bates who will speak on the archeoastronomy of northern Arizona. Tickets for the banquet are \$25 pp and are available through the registration site.

Please email StrangeNewWorlds@ipac.caltech.edu for the waiver code if you have already registered and would like to add either a field trip or a banquet ticket.

- [Day trip to the Grand Canyon on Saturday, May 7](#) All-Star Grand Canyon tours is offering a day-trip *departing from and returning to the conference venue* to give conference attendees the chance to explore Grand Canyon National Park. The \$110 price is a special rate for the conference and includes transportation, park entry, tour guides, lunch and time to explore the South Rim! Tickets for the day tour are still available directly from the tour company and more information can be found [here](#).



Registration

Click [here](#) to register.

- Late Registration Fee (March 16, 2011 – April 30, 2011): \$525
- On-site Registration Fee (May 1, 2011 – May 6, 2011): \$575

Accommodation Information

The room blocks at both the Drury Inn and the Embassy Suites are now full, however rooms are still available at the Radisson Woodlands. The reservation deadline for the conference rate at the Radisson Woodlands is April 11, 2011. The on-line reservation link can be found on the [lodging and travel information page](#).

Exploring New Worlds Astronomy Educational Day Needs Volunteers

The NASA Exoplanet Exploration Program Education and Public Outreach is partnering with Lowell Observatory to hold an "Exploring New Worlds Astronomy Day" on Wednesday May 4th. Between 400 and 480 middle and high school students from the Flagstaff Unified School District will visit Lowell Observatory on that day between 8 AM and 4 PM. They are looking for volunteers to help run activities, give informal talks about what they do in the field of exoplanet research and answer questions.

We ask that volunteers staff the event for a minimum of two hours, though we would certainly be glad to have you longer if your conference schedule permits! If you can give some of your time to the Flagstaff Unified School District please contact **Anya Biferno** at (818) 354-3019 or anya.a.biferno@jpl.nasa.gov.

Questions?

For questions not answered on the web pages, please email us at StrangeNewWorlds@ipac.caltech.edu