



The University of Maryland (UM), District of Columbia (DC), National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST), Food and Drug Administration (FDA), Army Research Lab (ARL), and Howard University Chapters of Sigma Xi, the Scientific Research Society, are pleased to host a reception and talk:

“From the Big Bang to the Discovery of Alien Life”

Dr. John C. Mather

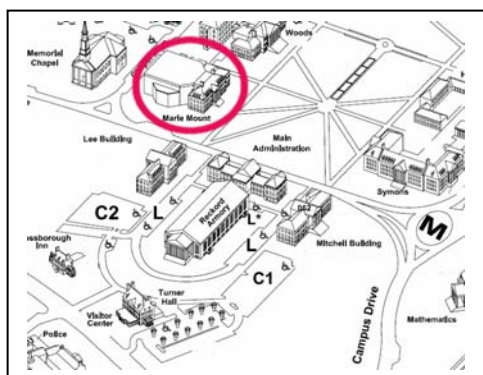
NASA Senior Astrophysicist, Goddard Fellow, Chief Scientist & Nobel Laureate

6:30 p.m., Thursday, 6 December 2007

Maryland Room, Marie Mount Hall, UM College Park Campus

Dr. John C. Mather is a Senior Astrophysicist in the Observational Cosmology Laboratory at NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center (GSFC). His research centers on infrared astronomy and cosmology. As an NRC postdoctoral fellow at the Goddard Institute for Space Studies (New York City), he led the proposal efforts for the Cosmic Background Explorer (COBE; 74-76), and came to GSFC to be the Study Scientist (76-88), Project Scientist (88-98), and also the Principal Investigator for the Far Infra-Red Absolute Spectrophotometer (FIRAS) on COBE. He showed that the cosmic microwave background radiation has a blackbody spectrum within 50 ppm. As Senior Project Scientist (95-present) for the James Webb Space Telescope, he leads the science team, and represents scientific interests within the project management. Dr. Mather is also Chief Scientist of the Science Mission Directorate (SMD) at NASA Headquarters, where he provides independent scientific advice on all aspects of the NASA science program.

Dr. Mather, a member of the National Academy of Sciences and Fellow of the American Physical Society, was awarded the 2006 Nobel Prize in Physics (with George Smoot) for his work on COBE. He is a long-time member of the University of Maryland Chapter of Sigma Xi



Marie Mount Hall is located on the University of Maryland College Park campus. Directions to campus can be found at <http://www.cvs.umd.edu/visit/directions.html>

Parking is available without charge after 4:00 p.m. in lots L, C1 and C2, just east of Marie Mount Hall. The Maryland Room, located on the ground floor of the northeast corner of Marie Mount, is wheelchair accessible. Please note that there is a Maryland basketball scheduled for that evening, so traffic may be heavier than usual.

The reception will include heavy hors d'œuvres and a cash bar.

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Registration Form – Fall 2007 Joint Sigma Xi Chapter Reception:

Name (s): _____

Address: _____

Daytime Phone: _____

Email: _____

Payment @ \$19/person: _____

Sigma Xi Chapter affiliation: _____



Return this form with remittance to:

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College Park, MD 20742-4452
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<http://www.umresearch.umd.edu/sigmaxi>

NOTE: RESERVATION DEADLINE – 27 November 2007

Please make checks payable to the “University of Maryland Chapter, Sigma Xi”
You may also register and pay on-line at <http://www.umresearch.umd.edu/sigmaxi/remit/>