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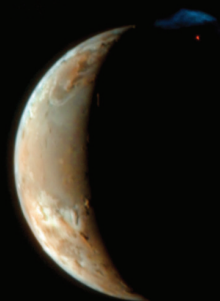
Exploring the Giant Magnetosphere of Jupiter

Professor Fran Bagenal

Tuesday, December 4th at 7:30 pm

LASP Auditorium 299

Jupiter is a planet of superlatives: it is the most massive planet in the solar system, rotates the fastest, has the strongest magnetic field, and has the most massive satellite system of any planet. These unique properties create active volcanoes on the moon Io, a strong magnetic field trapping vast amounts of energetic plasma, and intense aurora at Jupiter's poles. The giant magnetosphere of Jupiter has been explored by telescopes on Earth, Hubble Space Telescope, several different spacecraft flybys, plus the Galileo spacecraft that spent seven years in orbit. Dr. Bagenal will discuss our current understanding of this huge, dynamic structure and present what we hope to learn from the New Horizons spacecraft that flew down Jupiter's magnetotail this spring on its way to Pluto and from the Juno mission (launch due in 2011) that will skim over Jupiter's poles.



LASP is located at 1234 Innovation Dr., Boulder
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