Astrophysics at NASA

Peter Kurczynski Chief Scientist of Cosmic Origins NASA Goddard Space Flight Center

Friday, September 27, 2024

George Mason University

ABSTRACT

The National Aeronautics and Space Administration is America's storied civilian space agency. NASA is a world leader in discovery and exploration of the Earth and space. Astrophysics at NASA seeks to answer some of the most profound scientific questions, which place our lives and our world in a cosmic context. This presentation illustrates how NASA astrophysics transforms broad national science goals into strategic investments in science and technology. From planning for future missions, developing new technologies, gathering and interpreting the latest observations, this enterprise relies upon the scientific community at every stage. There are many ways that scientists and students at all career stages can become involved.

BIO



Peter Kurczynski is Chief Scientist in the Cosmic Origins Program Office at NASA. Dr. Kurczynski is interested in the formation and evolution of galaxies as well as developing new technologies to explore the universe, including adaptive optics, interferometry and detectors. He has held a variety of positions in government, academia and private industry. He earned a PhD in physics from the University of Maryland.