My Voyage on the Venus Express; Instrument and Planetary Science

I (NASA Goddard Space Flight Center) will talk about the European Space Agency’s Venus Express mission and my six year involvement as a member of its crew from my rare perspective of being both an instrument and planetary scientist. Venus Express is a mission constructed largely from flight spare parts, and as such many of the instruments were never originally intended for actual spaceflight. Beginning with the months after launch, I will describe my trials and tribulations as an instrument scientist struggling to understand the complex behavior of the troublesome electron spectrometer so that meaningful science data could be returned. Then I will discuss my new role as a Venus Express scientist, my exploration of the Venusian foreshock, my latest discoveries of Hot Flow Anomalies (HFAs) and Short Large Amplitude Magnetic Signatures (SLAMS), as well as advertising available Venusian data products for potential future collaborations.

Wednesday October 17, 2012
4:00pm
106 Hannan Hall
Refreshments will be served at 3:45

Sponsored in part by the Graduate Student Association
For more information, please contact:

Steve Kraemer (202) 319-4335
If you would like to request disability accommodations, please contact Gail Hershey at (202)-319-5315 to make arrangements.