



A Forum on Science & Technology



Hubble and the James Webb Space Telescope: A Tale of Two Observatories in Space

John Mace Grunsfeld

May 2, 2023 7:30 p.m.

Virginia Air & Space Center 600 Settlers Landing Road Hampton, Virginia

Co-sponsored by:

NASA Langley Research Center Virginia Air & Space Center City of Hampton, Economic Development Virginia AeroSpace Business Association

Modern astrophysics tries to answer grand questions about the Universe and our place in it: Where did we come from, where are we going, and are we alone? Key to answering these questions are two great observatories in space that are collaborations with NASA, ESA, and other partners. The Hubble Space Telescope has been called the most productive scientific instrument in human history. Launched in 1990, the telescope has performed observations which have measured the age of the Universe, confirmed the existence of black holes. discovered the accelerating Universe, and amazed the general public. On Christmas day in 2021 the James Webb Space Telescope (JWST) was launched into space after decades of development. JWST was designed to extend the view of Hubble in regions of the cosmos Hubble can't penetrate. JWST is exceeding the grand expectations of its ability to unravel the mysteries of the Universe. Join Astronaut/Astrophysicist John Grunsfeld as he takes us through the stories of Hubble and Webb.

John Grunsfeld is known as the "Hubble repairman" having flown on five shuttle flights including three missions to service and upgrade the telescope. He has served as the NASA Chief Scientist, the Associate Administrator for Science at NASA HQ, and deputy director of the Space Telescope Science Institute. He is currently president of Endless Frontier Associates. His current research is in the search for life in the Universe.

To receive monthly e-mail reminders about upcoming Sigma Lectures, send a blank e-mail to: sigma-series-subscribe@lists.nasa.gov