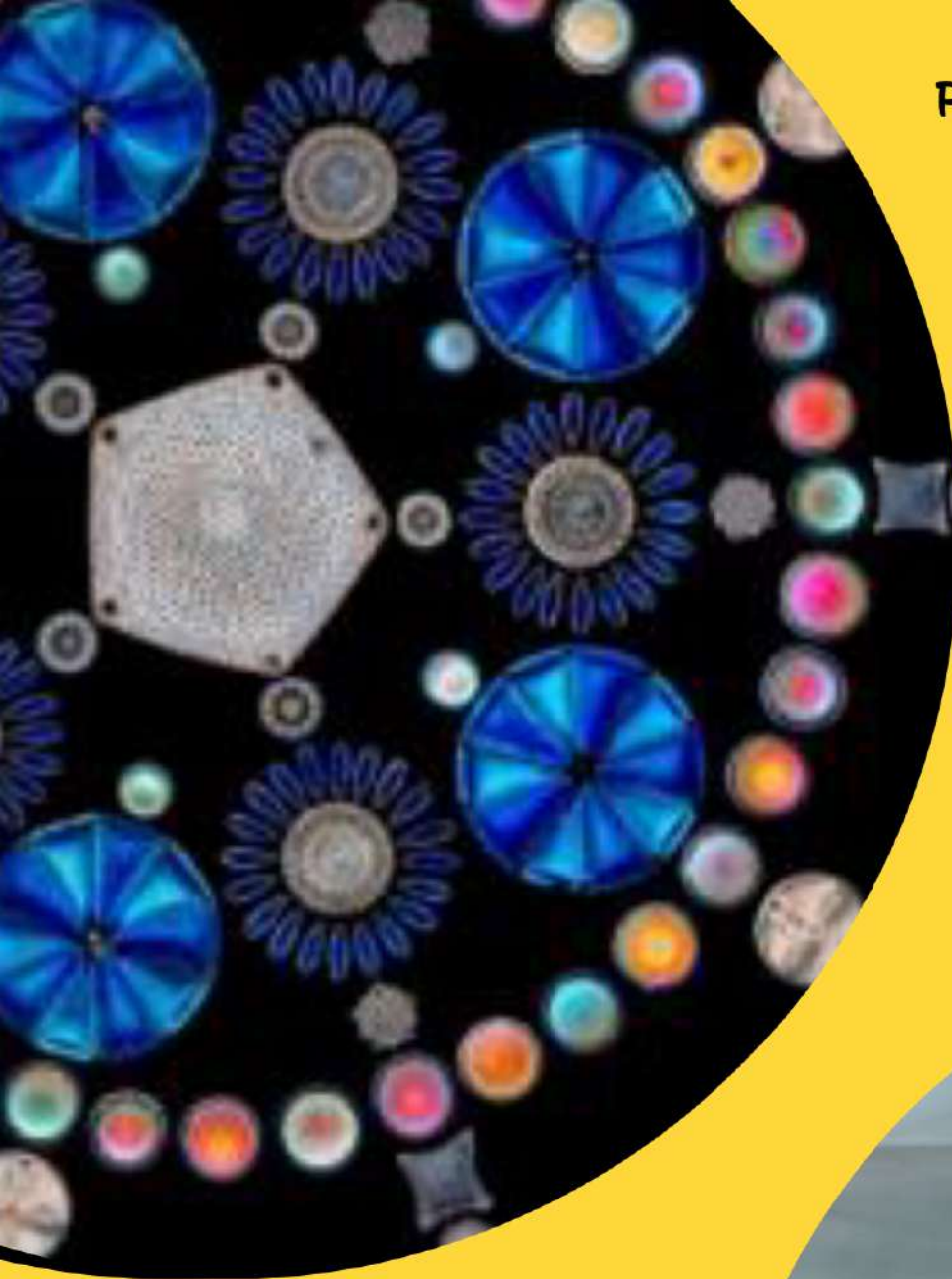


PROFESSOR DR. RICHARD HOOVER

LIFE IN THE UNIVERSE



**NASA Inventor of
the Year in 1992**

**MSFC Inventor of
the Year in 1991**

**14th May at 17:30
Physics Department
AD2 Auditorium - 1st Floor
Polo I - UC**

*Does Life Exist Only on
Earth?....*



Prof. Dr. Richard B. Hoover, D. Sc., h.c

Professor Dr. Richard B. Hoover joined the NASA/Marshall Space Flight Center Astrionics Laboratory in 1966. His initial work was on the Laser Ranging RetroReflector (LRRR) for Tracking and Guidance of the Apollo Saturn V Moon Rockets. He calculated the optical parameters for the Diffraction Limited Telescope and validated the LRRR concept by tracking Retroreflectors mounted on U-2 and SR-71 aircraft in flight over Huntsville.

Prof. Hoover was named MSFC Inventor of the Year in 1991. In 1992, he was named NASA Inventor of the Year and Nominated for National Inventor of the Year. Dr. Hoover Initiated and Chaired the long running SPIE Conferences: Advances in X-Ray Telescopes and Microscopes and Instruments, Methods and Missions for Astrobiology.

Prof. Richard B. Hoover is internationally known as an authority on diatoms. At the invitation of the Royal Society of Belgium, he conducted the Inventory of the Henri van Heurck Diatom Collection in Antwerp. In 1986, his paper (in collaboration with the late Sir Fred Hoyle) provided data relating the IR properties of the polymeric silica of diatoms to the IR properties of interstellar dust. In 1997, Dr. Hoover established the NASA/MSFC Astrobiology Research Group as part of the initial NASA Astrobiology CAN Program. Hoover assembled the scientific team and initiated the NASA/MSFC research on microbial extremophiles (in collaboration with Dr. Kenneth Nealson of NASA/JPL).

Prof. Dr. Richard B. Hoover has delivered scientific lectures and presentations in every continent on Earth. In 2001, he was elected Fellow National of the Explorers Club. In recognition of his discovery of indigenous microfossils in carbonaceous meteorites Prof. Hoover elected an Honorary Life Member of the Planetary Studies Foundation. He is author/editor of 52 books and SPIE Conference Proceedings and 435 scientific papers and encyclopedia articles. His research has been featured in films by the BBC; National Science Foundation, Discovery Channel, History Channel, Ancient Aliens, NHK Japan and National Geographic and the 2024 Documentary Film about possible life on Mars "Blue Planet Red". Prof. Hoover was elected a Fellow of SPIE in 1991) and served on the SPIE Board of Directors (1989-2002).