



A special honor reserved for ME alumni with an exceptional level of achievement. An opportunity for us to bring them back home, hear their career experiences, and induct them into the Alumni Achievement Lecture Club to stay with LSU for ever.

The Mechanical Engineering Alumni Achievement Lecture

3:30pm, Friday, March 8, 2013
Frank H. Walk Design Pres. Room

How curiosity, opportunity and teamwork guided me to Mars. Follow the twists and turns from LSU graduation, hypersonics research, spacecraft systems engineering and project management, to Curiosity's Flight Director during its landing. Plus, an update of the first six months of Curiosity's exploration of Mars at Gale Crater.

Following Curiosity



by

Keith Comeaux

Mission Manager

NASA Jet Propulsion Laboratory

LSU BS ME/Physics, Stanford MS/PhD Aeronautics/Astronautics, UCLA MBA.

Keith Comeaux joined NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory in 2006 to lead Curiosity's entry, descent and landing validation effort. Starting in 2008, he was responsible for leading Curiosity's system test activities during its two year construction through launch at Cape Canaveral in November, 2011. Following launch, Keith served as flight director for operating Curiosity during its cruise to Mars, culminating with its landing on the night of August 5. Presently, Keith is one of several mission managers as Curiosity begins its journey of discovery on the Martian surface.

Before arriving at JPL, Keith worked for Boeing's Satellite Development Center. While at Boeing, he received the AIAA Lawrence Sperry Award in 2001, which recognizes contributions made by aerospace professionals early in their careers.

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