CONGRATULATES

NASA’s “The Great Escape” Mission Team Member

Robert E. Johnson
John Lloyd Newcomb Professor of Materials Science and Engineering Physics, Department of Materials Science and Engineering

SELECTED BY

NASA

To join the team that will develop a concept for an orbiting mission to Mars to be launched in 2011
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“The Great Escape” mission, part of NASA’s Mars Exploration Program, seeks to characterize and understand Mars as a dynamic system, including its environment, climate cycles and biological potential, to increase our understanding of Mars’ atmospheric evolution and potential habitability. “The Great Escape” mission will collect data needed to describe how Mars lost its early atmosphere and what the implications are for the Earth’s atmosphere.

Robert E. Johnson, the John Lloyd Newcomb Professor of Materials Science and Engineering Physics at the University of Virginia, is a member of the “Great Escape” team that was awarded a grant to develop a concept study for an orbiting space mission to Mars slated to launch in 2011.

Professor Johnson joined the U.Va. faculty in 1971. His research focuses on energetic ion, electron and photon interactions with surfaces and atmospheres with emphasis on the role of energetic particles in the evolution of planetary atmospheres.

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THERE’S MORE WHERE THAT CAME FROM!