



UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN- STEVENS POINT

THURSDAY, MARCH 7, 2013

7:30 PM

Room 170 TNR (Trainer Natural Resources Building)

FREE PUBLIC LECTURE



*NASA – Hubble Space
Telescope Ultra Deep Field*



Dr. Terry D. Oswalt
Harlow Shapley Lecturer
Florida Institute of Technology

Searching for Life in the Universe: Where is Everyone?

ABSTRACT: Is there life elsewhere in the universe? Over 2000 planets outside the solar system are already known. How many of these other worlds might be home to simple living organisms? Have any planets developed intelligent life? And if intelligence is common in the universe, where is everyone? Right now, NASA's Kepler mission is searching for Earth-like worlds. Over the next 10 years a radically new instrument, the Atacama Large Millimeter Array (ALMA), will scrutinize the vicinities of millions of stars looking for faint radio signals. Space-based instruments capable of detecting the spectroscopic signatures of life on Earth-like planets are on the drawing boards. In this talk we will explore some of the factors that determine whether we are alone in the universe.

Dr. Terry D. Oswalt is the founding chairman of the Southeast Association for Research in Astronomy and is the Head of the Physics and Space Sciences Department at Florida Institute of Technology. He has written almost 200 scientific articles, edited three astronomy books, and is currently editing a six-volume series titled "Planets, Stars & Stellar Systems," which will be released in January 2013.

Dr. Oswalt's visit to our campus is financially supported by the American Astronomical Society through the Harlow Shapley Lectureship Program, by the College of Letters and Science of the University of Wisconsin - Stevens Point through an Enhancement Grant, and by the Department of Physics & Astronomy at UWSP.