

CIERA Inaugural Lecture

Northwestern University

Friday, February 5, 2010 - 3:30 PM - Ryan Auditorium

Technological Institute Building - 2145 Sheridan Road - Evanston, IL

<http://ciera.northwestern.edu/inaugural>



CENTER FOR
INTERDISCIPLINARY
EXPLORATION AND
RESEARCH IN
ASTROPHYSICS



NORTHWESTERN
UNIVERSITY

The Race for Habitable Worlds and Life in the Universe

Prof. Geoffrey Marcy
University of California, Berkeley

Science Fiction has deluged us with images of our Milky Way Galaxy teeming with habitable planets and populated by advanced civilizations engaged in interstellar communication, commerce, and conflicts. Back in our real universe, Earth-like planets and extraterrestrial life have proved elusive. None has been found. This year, 2010, astronomers are launching the first searches for Earth-like worlds around other stars, using extraordinary telescopes on the ground and in space. A worldwide race for the first habitable worlds and extraterrestrial life has begun.

This lecture will be followed by a special viewing session with Dearborn Observatory's historic 18.5-inch telescope at 6:15PM.

