



SPACE PHYSICS SEMINAR

John Clarke, Michael Mendillo, & Paul Withers

Boston University

BU's Role in the MAVEN Mission

Thursday, February 20, 2014

725 Commonwealth Ave.

Refreshments at 3:30pm in CAS 500

Talk begins at 4:00pm in CAS 502

Abstract:

The NASA Mars Atmosphere EVolutionN (MAVEN) mission to Mars was launched from Cape Canaveral on 18 November 2013, and will arrive at Mars in Sept. 2014.

Several people from BU are involved with this mission, whose primary objective is to study in detail the physical principles that determine the present rate of escape of the martian atmosphere into space. The long term goal is to be able to extrapolate back in time to learn about the history of the martian atmosphere, and thereby the martian climate. This seminar will be a tag-team presentation about the roles of BU personnel in MAVEN, including the study of the escape of H and O atoms, the D/H ratio, and the martian ionosphere.

Prof. Clarke is a Co-Investigator and member of the IUVS instrument team, and Prof.s Mendillo and Withers are Participating Scientists on the program.

A short history of events will also be presented.