INTERNATIONAL SOLVAY INSTITUTES BRUSSELS

SOLVAY COLLOQUIUM

Prof. Véronique Dehant

(Royal Observatory of Belgium & U. Catholique de Louvain)

Short resume: Véronique Dehant works at the Royal Observatory of Belgium, where she is Responsible for the Operational Directorate "Reference Systems and Planetary Science". She is also Extraordinary Professor at the Université Catholique de Louvain. She is Academician (Royal Academy of Belgium, Science class) since 2010 and was awarded with several prizes, including the Descartes Prize of the European Union in 2003. In 2015, she has obtained a European Research Council (ERC) Advanced Grant, with the project RotaNut: Rotation and Nutation of a wobbly Earth and in 2020, a second ERC Grant (Synergy), with the project GRACEFUL (GRavimetry, mAgnetism, rotation and CorE Flow). In December 2020, she got the Prix Dr A. De Leeuw-Damry-Bourlart of the FNRS.

HABITABILITY OF MARS AND ELSEWHERE IN THE SOLAR SYSTEM

The habitability of planets is directly related to their evolution, which is mainly driven by their internal energy sources and depends on the composition, structure, and thermal state of their interior. There is no direct access to planetary interiors but observations of their rotation for instance provide indirect information on their interiors, in the same way as a raw (liquid) egg and a cooked (solid) egg rotate differently. In this conference, we will discuss both the Earth and Mars from which we have rotation data and the consequences for their deep interiors in terms of core flows.

Tuesday 28 September 2021 at 4:00 P.M.

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