

ROBIN M. CANUP (NAS) is Assistant Vice President at Southwest Research Institute where she leads the Planetary Sciences Directorate in Boulder, Colorado. Dr. Canup is a theoretician that studies the formation and early evolution of planets and their moons. She has modeled many aspects of the formation of the Moon, including hydrodynamical simulations of lunar-forming giant impacts, the accumulation of the Moon, and its initial composition and orbital evolution. Dr. Canup has also developed models for an impact origin of the satellites of Pluto and Mars. Another major area of her work has addressed the origin of the systems of rings and satellites around the outer giant planets, including models of circumplanetary disk formation during late gas accretion, satellite accretion and migration, giant impacts and early dynamical evolution, and the compositional and interior properties of outer rings and moons.

She was the recipient of the 2003 Urey Prize of the Division of Planetary Sciences and the 2004 Macelwane Medal of the American Geophysical Union, and is a Fellow of the American Geophysical Union.

Dr. Canup was elected to the National Academy of Sciences in 2012, and the American Academy of Arts and Sciences in 2017. She earned her Ph.D. and M.S. in astrophysics and planetary sciences from the University of Colorado, Boulder.