Donald K. Yeomans

At the Jet Propulsion Laboratory, Don Yeomans is a JPL Fellow, Senior Research Scientist, Manager of NASA's Near-Earth Object Program Office and Supervisor of the Solar System Dynamics Group.

Dr. Yeomans was the Radio Science Team Chief for NASA's Near-Earth Asteroid Rendezvous mission and the NASA Project Scientist for the Japanese mission that landed upon, and returned a sample from, a near-Earth asteroid. He was also a scientific investigator on NASA's Deep Impact mission that successfully impacted comet Tempel 1 in July 2005.

He provided the accurate predictions that led to the recovery of comet Halley at Palomar Observatory on October 16, 1982 and allowed the discovery of 164 BC Babylonian observations of comet Halley on clay tablets in the British Museum. His group at JPL is responsible for providing predictions for future close Earth approaches and impacts by comets and asteroids.

Dr. Yeomans has received 19 NASA Achievement Awards including an Exceptional Service medal and a Distinguished Service Medal – NASA's highest award. Asteroid "2956" was renamed asteroid "2956 Yeomans" to honor his professional achievements.