

Steven J. Dick

Steven J. Dick currently holds the Baruch S. Blumberg NASA/Library of Congress Chair in Astrobiology at the Kluge Center of the Library of Congress. He served as the Charles A. Lindbergh Chair in Aerospace History at the National Air and Space Museum from 2011-2012, and as the NASA Chief Historian and Director of the NASA History Office from 2003-2009. Prior to that he worked as an astronomer and historian of science at the U. S. Naval Observatory in Washington, D.C. for 24 years, including three years on a mountaintop in New Zealand. He obtained his B.S. in astrophysics (1971), and MA and PhD (1977) in history and philosophy of science from Indiana University.

Among his books are *Plurality of Worlds: The Origins of the Extraterrestrial Life Debate from Democritus to Kant* (Cambridge University Press, 1982) (translated into French), *The Biological Universe: The Twentieth Century Extraterrestrial Life Debate and the Limits of Science* (Cambridge University Press, 1996), and *Life on Other Worlds* (Cambridge University Press, 1998), the latter translated into Chinese, Italian, Czech, Greek and Polish. He has also authored (with James Strick) *The Living Universe: NASA and the Development of Astrobiology* (2004), and a comprehensive history of the U. S. Naval Observatory, *Sky and Ocean Joined: The U. S. Naval Observatory, 1830-2000* (Cambridge University Press, 2003). The latter received the Pendleton Prize of the Society for History in the Federal Government. He is also editor of *Many Worlds: The New Universe, Extraterrestrial Life and the Theological Implications* (2000), and (with Keith Cowing) *Risk and Exploration: Earth, Sea and Stars* (NASA SP-2005-4701 (Washington, D.C., 2005). His latest works are edited volumes in the NASA History series; a full list is at http://www.stevenjdick.com/Steven_Dicks_Website/Welcome.html. His book *Discovery and Classification in Astronomy: Controversy and Consensus* was published by Cambridge University Press in 2013.

Dr. Dick is the recipient of the NASA Exceptional Service Medal, the Navy Meritorious Civilian Service Medal, the NASA Group Achievement Award for his role in NASA's multidisciplinary program in astrobiology, the NASA Group Achievement Award for the book *America in Space*, and the 2006 LeRoy E. Doggett Prize for Historical Astronomy of the American Astronomical Society. In 2012 he was elected a Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS). He has served as Chairman of the Historical Astronomy Division of the American Astronomical Society, as President of the History of Astronomy Commission of the International Astronomical Union, and as President of the Philosophical Society of Washington. He is a member of the American Astronomical Society, the International Astronomical Union, and a corresponding member of the International Academy of Astronautics. In 2009 the International Astronomical Union designated minor planet 6544 stevendick in his honor.