

Dr. Barbara J. Thompson

Dr. Barbara J. Thompson received her B.A. in Physics and Mathematics with a Minor in Geology from the University of Pennsylvania (1991). She obtained her Ph D. in Physics from the University of Minnesota (1996). Prior to working at NASA/GSFC, Dr. Thompson was employed as a graduate research assistant until 1996, where she studied the acceleration mechanisms of energetic electrons in the Earth's magnetosphere. She moved to NASA/GSFC after completing graduate school to serve as an operations scientist for the Solar and Heliospheric Observatory (SOHO). In 1998, she began working for the Solar Physics Branch, and has participated in a number of instrument proposal and development projects. Currently her primary effort is focused on scientific research and the development of the Solar Dynamics Observatory for the Living With a Star program. Dr. Thompson is a member of the American Astronomical Society (AAS), the American Geophysical Union (AGU), and the International Association of Geomagnetism and Aeronomy (IAGA).