

Les Johnson

Deputy Manager
Advanced Concepts Office
NASA, George C. Marshall Space Flight Center

Les Johnson is the Deputy Manager for NASA's Advanced Concepts Office at the Marshall Space Flight Center in Huntsville, Alabama. He is a co-investigator for the JAXA T-Rex Space Tether Experiment and was PI of NASA's ProSEDS Experiment. During his career at NASA, he served as the Manager for the Space Science Programs and Projects Office, the In-Space Propulsion Technology Program (including solar sail propulsion), and the Interstellar Propulsion Research Project. He twice received NASA's Exceptional Achievement Medal and has 3 patents. He earned his Master's Degree in physics from Vanderbilt University (Nashville, TN) and his BA at Transylvania University (Lexington, KY). He participated in the ISU 1993 Summer Session Program in Toulouse, France. Les has numerous peer reviewed publications and was published in Analog. He is a frequent contributor to the Journal of the British Interplanetary Society and a member of the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics, the National Space Society, the World Future Society, and MENSA. He is an author of three popular science books, "Living Off the Land in Space," "Solar Sailing: A Novel Approach to Interplanetary Travel," and "Paradise Regained: The Regreening of Earth." His first science fiction novel, "Back to the Moon," was published in December 2010.



12PM, TUESDAY, APRIL 24, 2012

Carlson Auditorium, Center for Imaging Science (Bldg. 76)