

# Thank you to Rich Zurek for 14 terrific years as Mars Exploration Program Principal Scientist!

- Helped architect the science strategy for the Mars program through “Follow the Water”, “Explore Habitability”, and “Seek Signs of Life” phases
- Guided multiple missions through prime mission and extended mission status via PMSR process
- Rich is continuing on in an emeritus role while Michael Mischna comes up to speed as the new MEP Principal Scientist
- Also continuing his role as the MRO Project Scientist



# Michael Mischna background info

- 2004-present: JPL Research Scientist
  - Research focus: Mars climate and atmosphere, numerical modeling (GCM/mesoscale), volatile cycling, surface/subsurface exchange
  - Author of 70+ publications, 200+ conference abstracts, 5 book chapters
- 2010-21: Supervisor, Planetary and Exoplanetary Atmospheres Group, JPL
- 2016-21: Deputy Chief Scientist/Associate Directorate Scientist, Planetary Science Directorate, JPL
- Mars mission activities
  - 'Council of Atmospheres': Phoenix, MSL, InSight, M2020
  - Surface Operations: MSL, Ingenuity
  - Mars Sample Return: SFR planning
- MEPAG engagement
  - Supporting Research and Technology Science Analysis Group (SRT-SAG)
  - Ice and Climate Evolution Science Analysis Group (ICE-SAG)
- President, Planetary Sciences Section, American Geophysical Union



Many years (and follicles) ago...  
Graduate school, UCLA 1999, Mars Polar  
Lander landing day.