Dr. Christopher T. Russell

Professor C. T. Russell is a member of the faculties of both the Institute of Geophysics and Planetary Physics and the Department of Earth and Space Sciences. He is acting System-wide Director of IGPP. He is the head of the Space Physics Center in IGPP, UCLA and the Director of the UCLA Branch of the California Space Grant Consortium. He is the principal investigator on the POLAR mission; a co-investigator on the magnetometer team on the Cassini mission to Saturn; the ROMAP investigation on the Rosetta mission to comet Churyumov-Gerasimenko; the IMPACT investigation on the STEREO mission to study solar and solar wind disturbances; the THEMIS mission to study substorms; and the magnetometer investigation on the Venus Express mission to study the solar wind interaction with Venus. He is the principal investigator of the Dawn mission to the asteroids Vesta and Ceres.

He received his B.Sc. from the University of Toronto 1964 and Ph.D from the University of California, Los Angeles 1968. Dr. Russell is a Fellow of American Geophysical Union and the American Association for the Advancement of Science. He is also an Associate of the Royal Astronomical Society. He received the Macelwane Award (1977), and the Fleming medal (2003) from the American Geophysical Union; the COSPAR Science Award, 2002. Asteroid 21459 Chrisrussell was named after him by the IAU in 2008.