

BIOGRAPHY



***Manfred Bester** received a doctorate in Physics from the University of Cologne, Germany with thesis work in millimeter wave spectroscopy and radio astronomy. He joined the Space Sciences Laboratory at UC Berkeley in 1986 and currently holds a position as Director of Operations, managing mission and science operations as well as navigation and ground systems functions. As THEMIS Mission Operations Manager he led the post-launch commissioning, navigation and science operations activities of the five-spacecraft constellation, and presently oversees operations for the extended mission involving transfer of two of the five spacecraft from Earth to lunar orbits. In 2008 he was also named Mission Operations Manager for NuSTAR. His areas of professional interest include mission analysis, multi-mission ground systems, process automation, space communications and operations, flight dynamics, software development and systems engineering.*