



Protect Climate, Earth and Environment

CEHESH TRUST OF INDIA AWARD for Excellence in Earth Science, 2023 Citation in favour of Prof. (Dr.) Michael Rampino



Dr. Michael R. Rampino is a Professor of Biology and Environmental Studies at New York University, known for his scientific contributions on causes of mass extinctions of life. Along with colleagues, **he has developed theories about periodic mass extinctions being strongly related to the earth's position in relation to the galaxy.** "The solar system and its planets experience cataclysms every time they pass "up" or "down" through the plane of the disk-shaped galaxy." These ~30 million year cyclical breaks are an important factor in evolutionary theory, along with other longer 60-million- and 140-million-year cycles potentially caused by mantle plumes within the planet, opining "The Earth seems to have a pulse," He is also a research consultant at NASA's [Goddard Institute for Space Studies](#) (GISS) in New York City.

Prof. Rampino's research has been concentrated in several areas including: **studies of climate change on various timescales; the products and dynamics of volcanic eruptions and their effects on the global environment; and the relationship of large asteroid and comet impacts, and massive flood-basalt volcanism, with mass extinctions of life. His most recent work has sought a connection between geologic events and astronomical processes, including encounters of Earth with dark matter in the Galaxy.**

Prof. Rampino's interest in [Astrobiology](#) is evidenced by the text, "Origins of Life in the Universe", co-authored with [Robert Jastrow](#) (Cambridge University Press, 2008), and a new book, "Cataclysms: A New Geology for the 21st Century" (Columbia University Press, 2017). He completed his B.A. in Geology from Hunter College of CUNY and a Ph.D. in geological sciences from Columbia University. He was a [post-doc](#) at the NASA, [Goddard Institute for Space Studies](#) in New York City and [Lamont-Doherty Earth Observatory](#) in Palisades, New York studying climate change. He was an Associate Research Scientist at the NASA, Goddard Institute for 5 years, studying the effects of volcanic eruptions on climate, before taking up his present position at NYU. At New York University, Rampino teaches the popular astrobiology course, "Earth, Life & Time" on the evolution of the Universe. **He won an NYU "Golden Dozen" teaching award in 2011. He was instrumental in convening three American Geophysical Union Chapman Conferences on "Volcanoes and Climate" in 1992 (Hilo, Hawaii), 2002 (Santorini, Greece) and 2012 (Selfoss, Iceland) and two international meetings on "Small Bodies in the Solar System" in Mariehamn, Sweden (1994) and in Hikon, Japan (1997).** He has been a visiting professor at [Tohoku University](#) and [Yamaguchi University](#) in Japan, the [University of Florence](#) and [University of Urbino](#) in Italy, and the [University of Vienna](#) in Austria and a lecturer for the annual Urbino Summer School in [Paleoclimatology](#). Prof. Rampino's research has been funded by [NASA](#), the [United States Department of Energy](#), the [American Philosophical Society](#), and the [National Science Foundation](#). To his credit, he has published several research papers in national and international research journals.

Greetings from CEHESH TRUST OF INDIA for the spectacular achievement of Prof. Rampino. May success and enthusiasm be with him always. Wish him Good Luck!



B. Mishra

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On behalf of CEHESH TRUST OF INDIA