

## Scott J. Kenyon - short biography

Born in 1956, Scott J. Kenyon is a senior astrophysicist at the Smithsonian Astrophysical Observatory. He received a B.S. degree in Physics from Arizona State University, and M.S. and Ph.D. degrees in Astronomy from the University of Illinois. He is a Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science and the American Physical Society, and a member of the American Astronomical Society, the American Geophysical Union, and the International Astronomical Union. He received the Copernicus Medal from the Nicolaus Copernicus University (1987) and shared the Hoopes Prize of Harvard University with Jane Luu and Sarah Stewart (1995) and the PROSE award with the editors and other authors of *The Solar System Beyond Neptune*.

Kenyon's main interests are the formation and evolution of stars, planets, and interacting binary stars. His work on symbiotic stars resulted in a monograph, *The Symbiotic Stars*, recently reprinted in paperback by Cambridge University Press. With Lee Hartmann, he showed that FU Ori variables and T Tauri stars are surrounded by disks of gas and dust. Later studies with Jane Luu, Ben Bromley, and Joan Najita illustrated how accretion processes transform these disks into planetary systems. With Warren Brown, Margaret Geller, and Michael Kurtz, he discovered the first hypervelocity stars; theoretical work with Ben Bromley considered how high velocity stars can place constraints on the Galactic potential.