

Dr. Michael Hesse

Dr. Michael Hesse, a member of the Senior Executive Service, is the Director of the Heliophysics Science Division at NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center. In this role he is responsible for a staff of about 300 civil servants, university scientists, and contractors engaged in solar and space research, instrumentation and mission development, and space environment modeling for NASA and partners. Dr. Hesse's prior positions include that of Chief of GSFC's Space Weather Laboratory, a research scientist appointment in the Electrodynamics Branch, and a postdoctoral fellowship at Los Alamos National Laboratory. He received his doctoral degree in Theoretical Physics at the Ruhr-Universität in Bochum, Germany. Dr. Hesse was the founding Director of the Community Coordinated Modeling Center (CCMC), for which he received NASA's Outstanding Leadership Medal in 2007. Dr. Hesse's responsibilities also include that of Lead Co-Investigator for Theory and Modeling for NASA's Magnetospheric MultiScale (MMS) mission. Dr. Hesse serves or has served on numerous review, advisory, or steering committees, most recently on the Steering Committee of the 2013 Heliophysics Decadal Survey. Dr. Hesse remains a publishing research scientist, with more than 200 papers in the scientific literature. In addition to Space Weather-related topics, his research interests include the theory and modeling of kinetic space plasma processes throughout the Heliophysics domain. Dr. Hesse was elected Fellow of the American Geophysical Union in 2010. Dr. Hesse holds a Ph.D. in Theoretical Physics from the Ruhr-Universität, Bochum, Germany.