



# San Mateo County Astronomical Society



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*SMCAS General Meeting and Presentation on Friday September 7, 2018*

## Dr Pascal Lee

Chairman, Mars Institute; Planetary Scientist, SETI

## Special Showing: Passage to Mars

Friday, September 7, 2018, [College of San Mateo, Building 36](#)

SMCAS General meeting at 7:00 p.m. ISC Room, room 110

Presentation at 8:00 p.m. [Planetarium](#)

Free and open to members and friends of SMCAS, free parking (lots 5 or 6).

Prepare yourself for an adventure! Before humans make it to Mars, they must conquer the Arctic. 'Passage to Mars' is the incredible true story of six explorers led by Dr Lee who embark on a treacherous, 2,000-mile journey across the forbidding ice of the Northwest Passage - an alien voyage on planet Earth designed to prepare NASA astronauts for an eventual mission to Mars. SMCAS will be showing a special presentation of the documentary of the adventure: 'Passage to Mars'. James Cameron describes it:



Dr Lee 2<sup>nd</sup> from right

'Captures the truth of exploration - the will to survive against the odds. Gripping!' Dr Pascal Lee will be on hand to introduce the video, set it in context, and answer questions at the end.

Dr Pascal Lee is a planetary scientist with two non-profit research organizations, the [Mars Institute](#) and the [SETI Institute](#). He is also director of the [NASA Haughton-Mars Project \(HMP\)](#) at NASA Ames Research Center in Mountain View, California. His research focuses on Mars (in particular the history of water on Mars), asteroids, and the moons of Mars, Phobos and Deimos. He also works on advancing the human exploration of Mars. The HMP is a field research project on Devon Island in the Canadian High Arctic, that's helping plan future human missions to Mars. Most summers you will find him on Devon Island! Dr. Lee is a recipient of the United States Antarctic Service Medal and the [Space Frontier Foundation's](#) Vision to Reality Award.

Dr Lee is a long time friend of SMCAS. Many of you will recall SMCAS and CSM worked with Dr Lee in 2011 to send CSM student Luis Alvarez on a summer internship at Haughton Crater, and we developed a joint proposal for the San Mateo Arctic Research Telescope (SMART). He has frequently presented to SMCAS about his work.