

Biography for Introduction

Mary Ellen Weber, Ph.D., M.B.A.

Dr. Mary Ellen Weber was a NASA Astronaut for ten years and a veteran of two Space Shuttle flights. She is among the youngest Astronauts ever to venture in space, having traveled 297 earth orbits and 7.8 million miles, and she was awarded the NASA Exceptional Service Medal. In 2000, she flew aboard Atlantis on a pioneering and critical early construction mission for the International Space Station. She also flew in 1995 aboard Discovery, launching a communications satellite into orbit and performing groundbreaking biotechnology experiments.

Dr. Weber is an active skydiver, with over 4,000 skydives, twelve silver and bronze medals to date at the U.S. National Skydiving Championships, and a world record for the largest freefall formation with 300 skydivers. She is also an instrument-rated pilot with over 600 hours in NASA's jet aircraft.

She has a Ph.D. in chemistry from Berkeley, an M.B.A. from SMU, and a B.S. in chemical engineering from Purdue, and she has published eight scientific papers and a patent.