

Maria T. Zuber

Maria Zuber is the E. A. Griswold Professor of Geophysics and Vice President for Research at MIT, where she is responsible for the MIT research enterprise. She oversees MIT Lincoln Laboratory and more than a dozen interdisciplinary research laboratories and centers, including the Computer Science and Artificial Intelligence Laboratory, Koch Institute for Integrative Cancer Research, the MIT Energy and Environmental Solutions Initiatives, the Plasma Science and Fusion Center, the Nuclear Reactor Laboratory, the Research Laboratory of Electronics, the Institute for Soldier Nanotechnologies, the MIT Cybersecurity Policy Initiative, and Haystack Observatory. Vice President Zuber is also responsible for research administration and policy, intellectual property, and research integrity and compliance, as well as research relationships with the federal government.

Zuber's research bridges planetary geophysics and the technology of space-based laser and radio systems. Since 1990, she has held leadership roles associated with scientific experiments or instrumentation on nine NASA missions, most notably serving as Principal Investigator of the Gravity Recovery and Interior Laboratory or GRAIL mission.

Zuber has won numerous awards including the MIT James R. Killian Jr. Faculty Achievement Award, the highest honor the MIT faculty bestows to one of its own. She is a member of the National Academy of Sciences and American Philosophical Society, and is a fellow for the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, the American Association for the Advancement of Science, the Geological Society and the American Geophysical Union.

Vice President Zuber is the first woman to lead a science department at MIT and the first to lead a NASA planetary mission. In 2004, President Bush appointed her to the Presidential Commission on the Implementation of United States Space Exploration Policy. In 2002 *Discover* magazine named her one of the 50 most important women in science and, in 2008, she was named to the *USNews*/Harvard Kennedy School List of America's Best Leaders. In 2013, President Obama appointed her to the National Science Board, and in 2016 she was elected Board Chair.