



**THE GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY
OF NAMIBIA**

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Talk title	Research focused on the early environmental evolution of both Earth and Mars.
By	Dr. John Grotzinger
Date	Wednesday, 25th June 2025
Time	17h30
VENUE	Auditorium of the MME, 1 Aviation Road

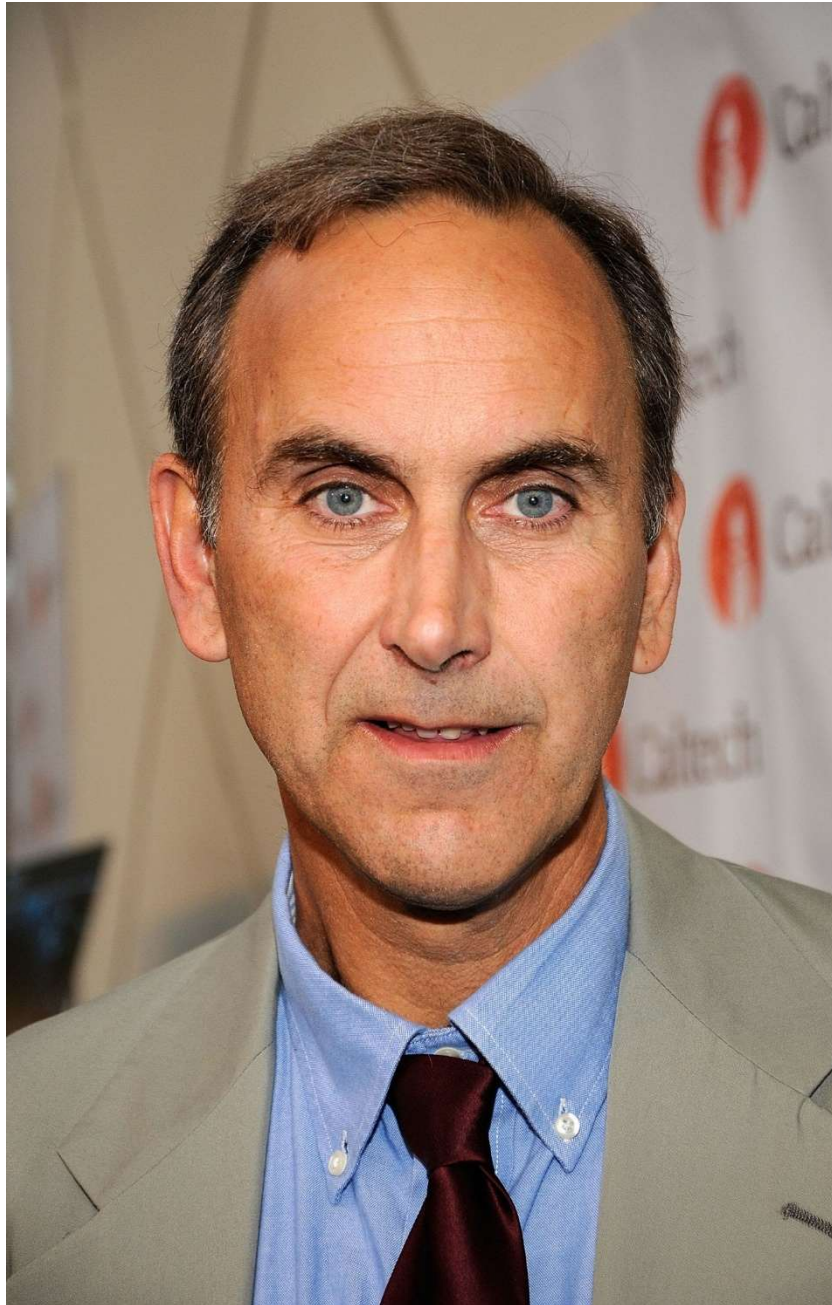
Abstract:

**Research focused on the early environmental evolution of both
Earth and Mars.**

**Dr. John Grotzinger
Division of Planetary and Geological Sciences, Caltech**

By working to understand the chemical and physical conditions of the early oceans and atmosphere on our planet, my research group has been able to determine the influence of those conditions on the early habitability of Mars, and the geologic byproducts of microbial evolution on Earth. The Curiosity rover has been exploring the Red Planet since 2012, gaining insights into how water was involved in the early history of Mars and what its potential role might have been in supporting microbial habitability, had life ever originated there. We are actively involved in that ongoing mission and the Mars 2020 rover mission.





John P. Grotzinger is the Howard Brown Professor of Geology at California Institute of Technology. His work primarily focus on chemical and physical interactions between life and the environment. In addition to biogeological studies done on Earth, Grotzinger is also active in research into the geology of Mars and was previously the lead scientist for the Curiosity rover. John has a long association with Namibia and he was awarded the Henno Martin award from the Geological Society of Namibia for his contributions to earth sciences.
