



Image Credit: NASA



Image Credit: NASA



"It isn't about making it to the top – it's about making the round trip."

– Scott Parazynski

The inaugural John Glenn Lecture in Earth and Planetary Sciences

APRIL 5, 2017

A standing-room-only crowd was inspired to “make big dreams come true” as Dr. Scott E. Parazynski – astronaut, physician, explorer, and entrepreneur – provided firsthand insights into the frontiers of space, world exploration, and technology development.

During space shuttle *Discovery* mission STS-95 in 1998, Dr. Parazynski was John Glenn’s crewmate, personal physician, and research partner as Senator Glenn became the oldest person to travel in space, flying as a life sciences payload specialist focused on investigating the aging process.

Dr. Parazynski enthralled listeners as he shared memories of John Glenn and of his own adventures in astronaut training, flying on five space shuttle missions, summiting Mount Everest, traveling in Antarctica, and inventing and commercializing new technological devices.

“John Glenn was an American patriot and a personal hero of mine...and a very humble man...I was fortunate to have had John in my life not just as a hero but as a crewmate and a friend...Sharing the rare experience of spaceflight with him is my most lasting memory, and I am honored to speak in the lecture series that bears his name and to explore the institution and community that helped raise him.”

– Scott Parazynski

“Extreme environments are incredible catalysts for innovation.”

– Scott Parazynski





While in New Concord, Dr. Parazynski visited the childhood home of his hero, the John and Annie Glenn Historic Site.

“Success requires seeing a series of small accomplishments on the way to your ultimate prize. ...The only unattainable limits we face in life are the ones we foolishly impose on ourselves.”

– Scott Parazynski



President Sue Hasseler welcomed the standing-room only crowd.

“Today is the very beginning of a new Muskingum hallmark of excellence. Named in honor of John Glenn – astronaut, senator, alumnus, trustee, and friend – this lecture series celebrates scientific

exploration and humankind’s quest for ever-greater knowledge of the world beneath our feet and those worlds above us in the heavens.”



Bill and Martha Lovejoy Distinguished Professor in Biology Jim Dooley introduced Dr. Parazynski, noting that

“For us, it is very special that he knew and worked with John Glenn. He and John Glenn shared a love for adventure and what’s possible...”

Those passions are direct ties to our history here at Muskingum and to what we hope and aspire to in the future.”

About Scott Parazynski

Dr. Scott Parazynski is a graduate of Stanford University and Medical school and trained at Harvard and in Denver for a career in emergency medicine and trauma. He has lived and traveled all over the world, spending many of his grade school and high school years in countries including Senegal, Lebanon, Iran, and Greece.



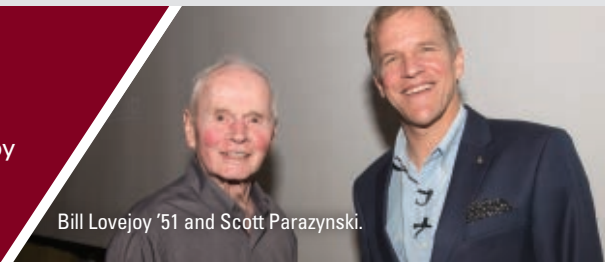
In 1992 he was selected to join NASA’s Astronaut Corps. Highlights of his five space shuttle missions and seven spacewalks include his STS-95 flight with John Glenn, a global ozone mapping mission on STS-66, leading the first joint U.S.-Russian spacewalk while docked to the Russian space station Mir during STS-86, assembly of the Canadian-built space station robotic arm during STS-100, and leading the spacewalking team in four EVAs on STS-120. His final EVA of STS-120, when he repaired a fully energized solar array wing while positioned by a 90-foot robotic boom farther than any orbiting astronaut had ever ventured from the safety of the airlock, is regarded by many as one of the most dangerous and challenging ever performed.

He is a commercial, instrument, multi-engine, and seaplane-rated pilot as well as an accomplished SCUBA diver and mountaineer. On May 20, 2009, he became the first – and so far only – astronaut to stand on top of the world on Mt. Everest. More recently, he set the first bootprints adjacent to the world’s youngest lava lake inside the crater of Massaya Volcano in Nicaragua. He has traveled widely across the Antarctic, where he oversaw the on-ice medical care of the National Science Foundation’s Antarctic Program.

Dr. Parazynski is a prolific inventor and product developer, and serves on the Board of Directors for several technology companies. He recently founded Apogee Interests to commercialize his innovations in medical devices, consumer products, and gear developed for extreme environments. He is also the co-founder and Chief Explorer of Blue Marble Exploration, which pursues challenging expeditions around the world.

About the John Glenn Lecture Series

The annual John Glenn Lecture Series in Earth and Planetary Sciences was established and endowed by Bill Lovejoy '51 and his late wife Martha Johnson Lovejoy '52. The series will feature a speaker chosen each year by the faculty of Muskingum’s departments of biology, geology, and physics.



Bill Lovejoy '51 and Scott Parazynski.