Dr. Kimberly Ennico Smith

Dr. Kimberly Ennico Smith is a research astrophysicist at NASA's Ames Research Center. She is a Co-Investigator and Deputy Project Scientist on NASA's New Horizons Pluto Fly-by Mission, leading the calibration activities and doing compositional mapping of Pluto and Charon with color imagery and spectroscopy. Dr. Ennico is also an Instrument Scientist for the Near-Infrared Volatile Spectrometer System instrument in the Regolith & Environment Science and Oxygen & Lunar Volatile Extraction lunar payload suite and an Instrument Scientist for the Mid-Infrared Spectroscopy Mode for the Stratospheric Observatory for Infrared Astronomy FORCAST Instrument. She is also a Principal Investigator developing innovative telescope designs using small satellites and is actively working to mature low-cost, quick turn-around suborbital and balloon payloads that deliver focused science measurements and promote broader hands-on experience. Her prior space mission experience includes being Instrument Scientist on the Spitzer Space Telescope Far-Infrared camera MIPS, specialist in detector radiation testing for the James Webb Space Telescope, and Payload Scientist and Integration & Test Lead for the Lunar Crater Observation and Sensing Satellite, where she successfully demonstrated a cost-effective Class D test program of modified COTS hardware.