



*John Baross*

Professor, School of Oceanography and Astrobiology Program, University of Washington, Seattle, WA John Baross received a PhD degree in marine microbiology from the University of Washington. His research specialty is the ecology, physiology, molecular phylogeny and evolutionary biology of microorganisms from hydrothermal vent and seafloor environments. Dr. Baross has particular interests in the microbiology of extreme environments and in the significance of submarine hydrothermal vent systems for the origin and evolution of life and for the possibility of life on other planets in similar settings.