

IHMC's Clancey wins prestigious book award

By Carlton Proctor

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William J. Clancey of the Florida Institute for Human and Machine Cognition has won the prestigious 2014 Gardner-Lasser Aerospace History Literature Award.

Given by the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics, the award comes for his latest book, "Working on Mars: Voyages of Scientific Discovery with the Mars Exploration Rovers."

The Gardner-Lasser Award honors the best original contribution to the field of aeronautical or astronautical historical nonfiction literature published in the past five years.

A senior research scientist at IHMC, Clancey will receive the award in January, in conjunction with the AIAA Science and Technology Forum and Exposition in National Harbor, Md.

The AIAA, with more than 35,000 members, is the largest technical society dedicated to the global aerospace profession.



Clancey

It was created in 1963.

The book is being hailed as giving a new perspective on remote planetary exploration.

It details how scientists in the Mars Exploration Rovers program conducted field science using mobile robotic laboratories in the process of conducting the first overland expeditions on another planet.

"The book really impressed

the selection committee as a unique contribution to the field," NASA chief historian Bill Barry said.

Clancey conducted extensive interviews to give readers an inside look at the groundbreaking remote exploration program.

"I have always thought of this book as being co-authored by the scientists and engineers I interviewed," Clancey said in a news release. "They provided the expertise, the tales and the fervor that made every moment of writing and editing a pleasure."