



# What *IS* Life?

As NASA's Mars Odyssey spacecraft orbits our red neighbor looking for possible signs of life, we have to ask the question "what IS life?"

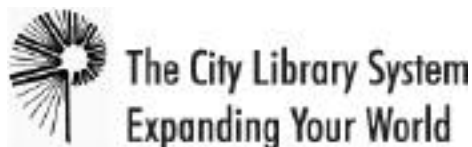
Science in Society continues its public dialog series with "What IS Life?" This dialog focuses on the search for life in the universe. What constitutes a living creature? What it takes for a planet to sustain life? Does life exist elsewhere in our own solar system? Can life exist only as we know it, or are there forms we do not yet understand? Is carbon the only possible base for a living creature?

Professor George Cassiday of the University of Utah Physics department will chair the team of experts to discuss these and many more questions. Joining Prof. Cassiday will be astrobiologist Dr. Michael New of NASA's Ames Research Center. "The Search for intelligent life in the universe" Professor Jim Wheeler of Utah State University will attend along with Dr. Gail Bingham, researcher from USU's Space Dynamics Laboratory. Rounding out the panel will be Distinguished Professor of Human Genetics, Dr. Ray Gesteland.



The series, presented by the Utah Science Center, the Hansen Planetarium, the Salt Lake City Public Library and KCPW, will be held on **May 21, 2002**, in the lecture hall of the Main Library, **209 East 500 South at 7:00 p.m.**

*The Science in Society public dialog series brings timely and sometimes controversial topics to the public in an understandable and informative manner. The dialogs are presented in an interactive, non-lecture style with public dialog as the major objective.*



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