



Solvay Colloquium



**Professor Michel Mayor
(Geneva University, Switzerland)**

The path to the detection of Earth-type planets

“How many planets in the Milky Way?” “How many planets similar to our Earth?” Over the last twenty years significant results have been obtained in the domain of extrasolar planets. More than one thousand planets have characterized orbits, for several hundred of them their radii are known. We have discovered an amazing diversity of planetary systems. These observations have revealed the importance of new physical process to be taken into account for the formation and evolution of planetary systems. The synergy between ground-based radial velocity measurements and the detection of transiting planets have permitted exciting possibilities to characterize planets. Already we have the possibility to get clues on the internal composition of exoplanets and their atmosphere.

Do we have the instrumental capabilities to detect and study planets as small as Earth analogues? What are the instruments in development and their scientific goals?

Tuesday 16 December 2014 at 4.00 P.M.

COFFEE AND TEA WILL BE SERVED AT 3.45 P.M. IN FRONT OF THE SOLVAY ROOM

SALLE SOLVAY

UNIVERSITÉ LIBRE DE BRUXELLES
CAMPUS PLAINE - BOULEVARD DU TRIOMPHE
ACCESS 2
1050 BRUSSELS



Vrije
Universiteit
Brussel



www.solvayinstitutes.be