

## **Dr. Mangala Sharma, Ph.D.**



Mangala Sharma is an astronomer working at the Office of Communications and Public Outreach at the Space Telescope Science Institute in Baltimore. Since her undergrad days, she has been sharing the excitement of science with students, teachers, and the public. She is currently part of a team of scientists and educators who coordinate NASA's astrophysics education and outreach programs nationwide.

Dr. Sharma obtained her Ph.D. in India, studying how galaxies are influenced by their environment. She has observed these gorgeous "island universes" using optical telescopes in India and Arizona. Using data from the space-based Chandra X-ray Observatory, she has explored the million-degree hot gas that suffuses galaxy clusters. Dr. Sharma has also taught undergraduate astronomy and physical science as a faculty member at Ohio University and Penn State University.

She loves music, poetry, foreign languages, hiking, and questions that are hard to answer.