

Linda Siobhan Sparke

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Education:

New Hall (now Murray Edwards College), Cambridge University, UK;
B.A. with First Class Honours in the Mathematical Tripos, June 1977

University of California at Berkeley; M.A. in Astronomy, June 1979
Ph.D. June 1981: 'Swirling Gas Flows in Elliptical Galaxies'; Advisor: Frank H. Shu

Research Areas in Astrophysics:

- Dynamics of galaxies, particularly disk systems
- Dynamics of disks around binary stars
- Galaxy structure, stellar populations and gas distribution

Research Employment (full-time positions):

Research Program Manager, Astrophysics Division, Science Mission Directorate, NASA Headquarters; GS-15, October 2009—present
'Rotator' IPA Program Director, Astronomical Sciences, National Science Foundation, August 2007—October 2009

Professor of Astronomy, University of Wisconsin-Madison, August 1997—May 2010
Assistant/Associate Professor, University of Wisconsin-Madison, January 1989—August 1997

Sabbatical Leaves: September—December 1996 at the Kapteyn Astronomical Institute, Groningen, Netherlands; January—May 1997 at Mt. Stromlo Observatory, Australian National University, Canberra; August—December 2004, Dominion Astrophysical Observatory, Canada; January—June 2005, Max Planck Institute for Astrophysics, Garching, Germany

Visiting scholar at the Scuola Normale Superiore, Pisa, Italy, Sept 1988—Dec 1988

Postdoctoral Fellow at the Kapteyn Laboratory, Groningen, Netherlands, Oct 1985—Aug 1988

Postdoctoral Fellow at the Institute of Astronomy, Cambridge, UK
September 1981—September 1982, and January 1984—September 1985
Member, Institute for Advanced Studies, Princeton NJ, September 1982-December 1983
Research Fellow in Astronomy at New Hall, Cambridge University, Oct 1981—Oct 1985

Elected to Fellowship of the American Physical Society, 2002, for "studies of the structure and dynamics of galaxies, using orbital motions to probe both time-steady and time-varying gravitational potentials, and the distribution of dark matter"

With co-author J.S. Gallagher, received American Astronomical Society's 2009 Chambliss Prize for Astronomical Writing 'for an academic audience, specifically textbooks at either the upper division undergraduate level or the graduate level'

Professional Bibliography:

75 refereed publications, mainly in areas of galactic structure and dynamics; active galactic nuclei; circumstellar disk dynamics

Text for 3rd and 4th year undergraduate students: L.S. Sparke and J.S. Gallagher 'Galaxies in the Universe: An Introduction', Cambridge University Press. The first edition was published in 2000 and sold about 7000 copies; the second edition, including web materials, appeared in February 2007, and was recognized by a society prize. A Korean translation and a Chinese edition are in progress.

Professional Activities at U Wisconsin-Madison:

Trained 6 PhD students and one postdoctoral scholar

Scientific Editor, *Astrophysical Journal* (January 2002—December 2004)

Chair, Department of Astronomy, University of Wisconsin-Madison (July 2001—June 2004)

- Inaugurated department's Board of Visitors, to assist with private fundraising
- Led 2 faculty hires, and put forward 2 tenure cases (both successful)
- Leadership in management and development for Space Place, our off-campus outreach center with 2.1FTE in underserved South Madison. The Provost's office funded a move to nearby enlarged and refurbished space, completed in August 2005; the campus and College underwrote a stable position for Space Place Director Dr. Jim Lattis. Worked with Dr. Lattis to set up our first web-based distance-learning astronomy course, aimed at K-12 teachers.
- Co-organizer for the American Astronomical Society's Fall 2004, 2006 and 2008 meetings for Department and Program Chairs.
- Started UW-Madison's NSF-supported summer Research Experiences for Undergraduates program in Astronomy and Astrophysics, acting as PI for our 2001 and 2004 proposals

Executive Committee, Physical Sciences Division, UW-Madison (1995-8) — this committee reviews tenure cases

U. Wisconsin-Madison member representative for Associated Universities for Research in Astronomy (July 2005 to August 2009)

Member of WIYN Board (April 2000—Fall 2005); this consortium (UW-Madison, U. Indiana, Yale and the National Optical Astronomical Observatory) operates a 3.5 meter telescope on Kitt Peak mountain in Arizona