

Eric L. N. Jensen

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Education

Ph.D. in Astronomy, University of Wisconsin-Madison, August 1996 (M.S. August 1992).

B.A. in Physics, Carleton College, 1987. *Magna cum laude*, distinction in Physics, Phi Beta Kappa.

Academic Employment

Professor of Astronomy, Swarthmore College, 2012–present; Associate Professor 2004–2012; Assistant Professor 1998–2004. Taught courses in Astronomy, Physics, and Environmental Studies, from introductory courses for non-majors to advanced seminars.

Instructor and Visiting Research Associate, Arizona State University, 1996–1998.

Leadership and governance experience

Interim Dean of Academic Success, 2023–2024.

Oversee the part of the Division of Student Affairs concerned with academics, including the Registrar, Student Disability Services, Pre-health/pre-law advising, and Fellowships & Prizes (11 staff total). Liaison between faculty and Student Affairs. Work with students and faculty to coordinate advising and student support, and to monitor academic progress. Serve on the Curriculum Committee and chair the Committee on Academic Requirements. Work closely with the Vice President for Student Affairs as part of the Division leadership team.

Chair, Division of Natural Sciences and Engineering, 2007–2008; 2021–2023.

Served on the Curriculum Committee and Academic Assessment Committee; worked with department chairs in the NSE Division to identify issues of concern and communicate them to the Provost; coordinated the allocation of summer research stipends and funding from the Scientific Equipment Fund and KIVA endowment for visualization software.

Committee on Faculty Procedures (elected committee), 2013–2015, 2018–2020.

Worked with the President and Provost to set the agendas for faculty meetings, and to assign faculty to standing or ad hoc committees (e.g. College-wide search committees).

Middle States Self-Study/Reaccreditation Steering Committee, 2017–2019.

Co-chaired the working group on Governance, Leadership, and Administration; co-authored the self-study chapter on that topic.

Program Chair, Interdisciplinary Program in Environmental Studies, 2017–2019.

Worked with Environmental Studies committee faculty colleagues to craft a successful proposal for an Honors major in Environmental Studies; helped to shepherd that proposal through discussions and iterations with the Curriculum Committee.

Director, Frank Aydelotte Foundation for the Advancement of the Liberal Arts, 2014–2017.

Worked with the Foundation's faculty steering committee and supervised Assoc. Director to enable various faculty-driven initiatives in support of the liberal arts, including Faculty Research Seminars, Faculty Pedagogy Seminars, Science/Social Science/Humanities Café talk series, book groups, and faculty dinner discussions. Managed the Foundation budget and chaired meetings with the internal Steering Committee and external Advisory Board.

Chair, Department of Physics and Astronomy, 2009–2014 (on leave 2012–2013).

Strategic Planning Council, 2010–2012.

One of four faculty members on the steering committee for the College's strategic planning process. Worked with the President, Provost, Board, faculty, and staff to identify key strategic issues. Worked with the President and Provost to finalize the strategic plan.

Council on Educational Policy (elected committee), 2005–2007.

Worked with the President and Provost to review proposals for tenure lines and to discuss other strategic matters related to the curriculum.

Faculty observer, Board of Managers meetings, 2005–2007.

Attended Board meetings, including both Friday committee meetings and plenary session; summarized meetings for faculty colleagues.

Member of external review teams for Physics and/or Astronomy departments at Smith, Oberlin, Pomona, Wesleyan, and Whitman Colleges.

Other College service:

Environmental Studies Committee, 2010–present.

Frank Aydelotte Foundation for the Liberal Arts steering committee, 2013–2014.

Dean of Students Search Committee, 2009–2010.

Electronic Privacy Committee, 2003–2004.

Intellectual Property Task Force (drafted a new IP policy), 2000–2003.

Swarthmore Foundation Committee, 1999–2000.

Research

Author or co-author of more than 140 refereed publications. Primary author of papers in *Nature*, *The Astrophysical Journal*, and *The Astronomical Journal*; co-author of additional papers in those journals plus *Science*, *Nature Astronomy*, *Astronomy & Astrophysics*, and *Monthly Notices of the Royal Astronomical Society*. All papers can be viewed in NASA's [Astrophysics Data System](#), at [orcid.org](#), or in my extended CV on [my website](#).

Principal investigator of grants totaling more than \$600K from NASA and the National Science Foundation, including funding for Swarthmore's Peter van de Kamp Observatory.

Journal article referee for *American Journal of Physics*, *Astronomical Journal*, *Astronomy & Astrophysics*, *Astrophysical Journal*, *Astrophysical Journal Letters*, *Monthly Notices of the Royal Astronomical Society*, and *Nature*.

Research advisor for more than 40 undergraduate students.