

CURRICULUM VITAE

Robert Alexander McLaren

Personal:

Place of Birth: Hamilton, Ontario, Canada
Citizenship: Canadian (U.S. Permanent Resident since 1991)

Address and Contact Information:

Institute for Astronomy
University of Hawaii
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Education:

University of Toronto Ph.D. 1973 (Physics)
M.Sc. 1970 (Physics)
B.Sc. 1968 (Math & Physics)

Positions Held:

Institute for Astronomy University of Hawaii	Associate Director	1990 -
	Interim Director	1997 - 2000
Canada-France-Hawaii Telescope (CFHT)	Executive Director	1987 - 1990
	Associate Executive Director	1984 - 1987
	Resident Astronomer	1983 - 1984
	Visiting Astronomer	1982 - 1983
University of Toronto Dept. of Astronomy	Associate Professor (tenured)	1980 - 1990
	Assistant Professor	1975 - 1980
Univ. California, Berkeley Dept. of Physics	NATO Postdoctoral Fellow	1973 - 1975

Management Activities

Since my arrival at the Institute for Astronomy in 1990, I have been primarily involved with the development of astronomy facilities on Mauna Kea. For the first six years, I spent most of my time on the agreements and permitting for the VLBA Antenna, Subaru, Keck II, Gemini, and the Submillimeter Array. During my term as Interim Director, I worked on the University's Master Plan for Mauna Kea (adopted in 2000), and on the development of the Institute's base facility in Hilo. More recently, in my position as Associate Director, I have assisted with the Pan-STARRS project on Haleakala and with the approval process for the Daniel K. Inouye Telescope on Haleakala and the Thirty Meter Telescope on Mauna Kea. I handle a number of day-to-day responsibilities in the Director's Office and have administrative responsibility for Mauna Kea Observatories Support Services.

Research and Teaching

While at Toronto (1975-82), I was one of a group of faculty and students who redetermined the distances to several Local Group galaxies using the Cepheid Period-Luminosity relation in the infrared. We showed that by employing infrared photometry, we could greatly reduce the uncertainties which arise in the optical as a result of extinction and variations in temperature among Cepheids. While at CFHT (1982-90), I collaborated with a number of visiting observers on a variety of research topics: IR occultation observations of Neptune, volcanic hot spots on Io, high-resolution 10- μm imaging. I have not engaged in personal astronomical research since 1990. I have a longstanding interest in astronomical instrumentation. Recently, I have been working in the areas of observatory site characterization, site monitoring, and custom weather forecasting.

I have taught the introductory astronomy course at the University of Hawaii at Manoa several times, including the laboratory section.

Board and Committee Memberships

Canada-France-Hawaii Telescope
Board of Directors 1997 –

Gemini Observatory
Board of Directors 1993 – 2003; 2005 – 2016
Gemini Director Search Committee (chair) 2005

Association of Universities for Research in Astronomy (AURA)
Member Representative 1998 – 2014
Observatories Council 1998 – 2003
Coordinating Committee of Observatory Research Directors (ACCORD) 1998 – 2000
Solar Observatory Council 2010-16

Visiting Committees
Carnegie Observatories 2002
Lowell Observatory 2005