

**LAIRD A. THOMPSON  
CURRICULUM VITAE**

Born: September 6, 1947  
Married with 2 children

Degrees:

BA, 1969, Cum Laude, University of California, Los Angeles  
with majors both in Physics and in Astronomy  
Ph.D., 1974, Astronomy, University of Arizona  
Thesis Advisor: Dr. William. G. Tift  
Thesis title: Galaxy Angular Momentum

Professional Associations:

International Astronomical Union  
American Astronomical Society  
Astronomical Society of the Pacific  
International Society for Optical Engineering-SPIE  
Adjunct Member of the Center for Adaptive Optics

Appointments:

Postdoctoral Researcher, Kitt Peak National Observatory (with Dr. Stephen E. Strom),  
January 1975-January 1977  
Visiting Assistant Professor, Department of Physics and Astronomy, University of Nebraska,  
January 1977-July 1979  
Visiting Assistant Professor, Institute for Astronomy and Department of Physics and Astronomy,  
University of Hawaii,  
July 1979-July 1980  
Assistant Astronomer, Institute for Astronomy, University of Hawaii,  
August 1980-June 1984  
Associate Astronomer, Institute for Astronomy, University of Hawaii,  
July 1984-August 1987  
Associate Professor, Department of Astronomy, University of Illinois,  
August 1987-August 1994  
Professor, Department of Astronomy, University of Illinois  
August 1994-present

Examples of Recent Service to the Astronomy Community:

2006- University of Illinois Astronomy Department Executive Committee  
2005 - On-site project reviewer, La Palma Observatory, Spain. Preliminary Design Review for GLAS, a  
ground layer laser guided adaptive optics system for the Wm. Herschel 4.2-m telescope  
2004 - Conference Organizing Committee Member for the SPIE Meeting "Astronomical Telescopes and  
Instrumentation 2004", Glasgow, Scotland

Recent Oral Presentations:

2008 – Colloquia entitled “Detecting the Atmospheres of Transiting Exoplanets” (Oct. 1-3)  
National Taiwan University & Academia Sinica Institute of Astronomy & Astrophysics  
National Tsing-Hua University  
National Central University

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- \*Dwarf Ring Galaxy. 1977. Thompson, L. A. , and Gregory, S. A. *Publ. Astron. Soc. Pacific* 88:662.
- \*Is the Coma Cluster a Zel'dovich Disk? 1978. Thompson, L. A. and Gregory, S. A. *Astrophys. J.* 220:809.
- \*The Coma/A1367 Supercluster and Its Environs. 1978. Gregory, S. A. and Thompson, L. A. *Astrophys. J.* 222:784.
- \*The Shape of the Low Mass Portion of the Galaxy Clustering Spectrum. 1978. Gregory, S. A. and Thompson, L. A. *Nature* 274:450.
- \*UBVR Photometry of the Ring Galaxy VII Zw466. 1978. Thompson, L. A. and Theys, J. *Astrophys. J.* 224:796.
- \*The NGC 4517 Cluster of Galaxies. 1978. Thompson, L. A., Welker, W. W., and Gregory, S. A. *Publ. Astron. Soc. Pacific* 90:644.
- \*The Hercules Supercluster I. Basic Data. 1979. Tarenghi, M., Tifft, W., Chincarini, G., Rood, H., and Thompson, L. *Astrophys. J.* 234:793.
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- \*High-Resolution Imaging from Mauna Kea: Surface Photometry of Galaxies in CL 0024+16. 1985. Thompson, L. A. *Astrophys. J.* 300:639.
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