

# JAMES E. NEFF

**CURRENT POSITION:** Deputy Division Director,  
Division of Astronomical Sciences, National Science Foundation

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**EDUCATION:** •**Ph.D.** Astrophysics, University of Colorado, 1987  
•**M.S.** Astrophysics, University of Colorado, 1985  
•**B.S.** Physics & B.S. Astronomy, University of Iowa 1982

## PROFESSIONAL SYNOPSIS:

- NSF Deputy Division Director (Career Senior Executive Service):
- NSF Program Director: Coordinator of Individual Investigator Programs within the Division of Astronomical Sciences at NSF. Planning and oversight for all aspects of the grants programs, which award approximately \$80 million/year. Responsible for training, tasking, and providing day-to-day oversight of the Individual Investigator Programs team of about 15 program officers and support staff. Manage the merit review process, recommend proposals for award, interact with Principal Investigators during post-award management, approve annual and final reports. Previously served as program lead for stellar astrophysics, instrumentation, galactic astronomy, and education/special programs. Liaison with other divisions/programs at NSF and with NASA Astrophysics Division regarding joint reviews and joint funding, new program announcements, and strategic planning. AST point of contact for various foundation-wide programs such as the joint NASA-NSF “NN-EXPLORE” program in exoplanet science, development of the Windows on the Universe Center for Astronomy Outreach at Kitt Peak, and transition activities at Sac Peak Observatory.
- Professor: 25 years as a Physics & Astronomy faculty member, finishing as full Professor at College of Charleston (see page 2 for details).

**PUBLICATIONS:** 200 publications including 59 refereed and invited review papers, 72 edited conference proceeding papers, and 69 miscellaneous publications.

**GRANTS and CONTRACTS:** Investigator on over 150 sponsored research and competitive, peer-reviewed observing programs. Over \$2.5 million has been awarded for those programs on which I am the Principal Investigator.

**RESEARCH INTERESTS:** (1) stellar activity, solar–stellar connection and space weather; plasma astrophysics; (2) measurements of precise stellar parameters; (3) high-resolution spectroscopy; asteroseismology; robotic telescopes; time-domain astronomy

## PROFESSIONAL EMPLOYMENT HISTORY:

- Deputy Division Director, Division of Astronomical Sciences, National Science Foundation, Mar 2020 - present.
  - Program Director, National Science Foundation, Jun 2013 - March 2020. IPA detailee (Aug 2013 - Jun 2016), Coordinator of Individual Investigator Programs (Mar 2015-Sep 2019), Acting Deputy Division Director (Sep 2019-Feb 2020).
  - Professor, Dept. of Physics & Astronomy, College of Charleston, (2007-2016). Associate Professor (2001-2007); Assistant Professor (1997-2001).
    - NCAR Advanced Study Program Faculty Fellow, High Altitude Observatory, Jul 2010 - Feb 2011.
    - Visiting Fellow, Center for Astrophysics and Space Astronomy, University of Colorado, summer 2005 and Mar-May 2011.
    - ASEE Summer Faculty Fellow, NASA Jet Propulsion Laboratory, 2003.
    - ASEE Summer Faculty Fellow, Laboratory for High Energy Astrophysics, NASA Goddard Space Flight Center, 1999 and 2000.
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- Visiting Assistant Professor, Dept. of Physics & Astronomy, State University of New York at Stony Brook, 1997.
  - Adjunct Instructor, Dept. of Physics, Bucknell University, 1996.
  - Research Associate and Member of the Graduate Faculty, Dept. of Astronomy & Astrophysics, Penn State University, 1991–1996.
  - National Academy of Science/National Research Council Fellow, Laboratory for Astronomy and Solar Physics, NASA Goddard Space Flight Center, 1988–1991.
  - Post-Doctoral Research Associate, Joint Institute for Laboratory Astrophysics, U. of Colorado and National Bureau of Standards, 1987–1988.
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- Graduate Research Assistant, Joint Institute for Laboratory Astrophysics, U. of Colorado and National Bureau of Standards, Summer 1983; 1984–1987.
  - Graduate Research Assistant, Astrophysical, Planetary, and Atmospheric Sciences, U. of Colorado and NOAA Space Environment Laboratory, 1983–84.
  - Teaching Assistant, Astro-Geophysics, U. of Colorado, 1982–83. Tutor, U. of Colorado, 1982–1987.
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- Teaching Assistant, Dept. of Physics and Astronomy, U. of Iowa, 1981–1982.
  - Observing Assistant, U. of Iowa Observatory, 1980–1981. Laboratory Technician, Space Physics Computing Center, U. of Iowa, 1979–1982.

**PROFESSIONAL SERVICE:** Program Director, National Science Foundation, Division of Astronomical Sciences; “Space Weather Operations, Research, and Mitigation” interagency working group; Panel Member, Review of NASA Astrophysics Research and Data Analysis Program; NASA Origins of Solar Systems proposal review; three NASA FUSE review panels (and panel chair); two NASA CHANDRA review panels (and vice-chair); two NASA IUE review panels; NASA UV, Visible, and Gravitational Astrophysics Research & Analysis review panel; NASA Orfeus/SPAS II review panel; NASA EUVE review panel; NASA Astrophysics Data Program review panel; NASA Long-Term Space Astrophysics review panel; NSF Stellar Astrophysics Review Panel; NSF Star-Planet Interactions Review Panel; NSF Ad Hoc reviews; Journal Referee for *Astrophysical Journal*, *ApJ Letters*, *Astronomical Journal*, *Astronomy & Astrophysics*, *American Journal of Physics*, *Astronomische Nachrichten*; National Solar Observatory Telescope Allocation Committee; Scientific Advisory Committee, Hobby-Eberly Telescope; IAU Working Group for Multiwavelength Astrophysics; Local Organizing Committee, AAS High-Energy Astrophysics Division Meeting (Chair), 1999; Local Organizing Committee and Scientific Organizing Committee (Co-Chair), 4th SONG Workshop, 2011; Scientific Organizing Committee, 2nd MUSICOS Workshop

**PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS:** American Astronomical Society; American Physical Society; American Geophysical Union; International Astronomical Union; International Society for Optics and Photonics; Royal Astronomical Society; Astronomical Society of the Pacific; American Association for the Advancement of Science

**ACADEMIC SERVICE:** *College of Charleston:* Faculty Advisory Committee to the President, President’s Information Technology Council, Faculty Educational Technology Committee, Assessment of Institutional Effectiveness Committee (sub-committee chair), Biology Chair Search Committee, UVI/CofC Bilateral Agreement Steering Committee, Environmental Institute Committee; G.E. Jones Award Committee; Sabbatical proposal review committee. *CofC Physics & Astronomy Department:* Observatory Management, Chair’s Advisory Committee, Planning Group for Major Building Renovation, Dept. Chair Search Committee, Astronomy Faculty Search Committees (chair), Atmospheric Physics Faculty Search Committees (chair), Air Quality Faculty Search Committee (chair), Departmental Assessment and Planning Committee, Astronomy Curriculum and General Education Committees (chair), Computers & Equipment Committee. *Penn State University:* Observatories Committee, Black Moshannon Observatory Operations Committee (chair). *University of Colorado:* External Review Team for Physics program review, Graduate Student/Faculty Liaison. *University of Iowa:* President, Society of Physics Students.

**TEACHING EXPERIENCE:** (1) *College of Charleston*: “Introduction to Astronomy” 2-semester lecture+laboratory course. “Astrophysics”. “Stellar Astrophysics”. “Experimental Astronomy”. “Energy Production & Resource Management” (graduate environmental studies course). “Energy Production” (undergraduate course; includes lab). Research Seminar. Supervised over 40 independent study and thesis courses. (2) *State University of New York*: “Introduction to the Solar System” and a graduate course entitled “The Search For Life In the Universe”. Supervised teaching assistants. (3) *Bucknell University*: Instructor for 2 Physics laboratory courses and 1 Astronomy laboratory course. Supervised 5 teaching assistants. (4) *Penn State University*: Guest lectures in graduate Stellar Atmospheres course, taught the undergraduate Honors Seminar, and supervised Independent Research courses. (5) *University of Colorado* and *University of Iowa*: Instructor for 4 Physics laboratory classes and for 8 Astronomy laboratory classes. Tutor for math, physics, astronomy, and chemistry. (6) Thesis Advisor for one Ph.D., three M.S., and four undergraduate Honors theses. Provided financial support and scientific supervision for over 50 student research assistants. (7) Presented over 35 colloquia and invited review talks at international meetings. Trip leader for solar eclipse expedition, and presented many public lectures, observatory open nights, and press interviews.

**OBSERVING/INSTRUMENTATION EXPERIENCE:** 307 nights on 7 different telescopes at Kitt Peak National Observatory and Cerro Tololo Interamerican Observatory, 74 nights on 2 different telescopes at McDonald Observatory, 65 nights at Mt. Stromlo Observatory, and 6 nights at Siding Spring Observatory. Over 80 observing shifts with the International Ultraviolet Explorer (IUE). Experience with the NRAO/VLA and with several orbiting telescopes (KEPLER, SPITZER, HST, IUE, FUSE, EUVE, EXOSAT, GINGA, ROSAT, CHANDRA). I have managed, developed instrumentation for, and made *extensive* use of the optical and radio observatory facilities at the University of Iowa, the University of Colorado, Penn State University, the College of Charleston, and the University of the Virgin Islands.

**HONORS AND AWARDS:** CofC “Distinguished Research Award” ; CofC “In Praise of Teaching” Honoree; CofC “Superior” Rating in Post-Tenure Review; NCAR Advanced Study Program Fellow; NASA Faculty Fellow, NASA/GSFC and NASA/JPL; Project Kaleidoscope “Faculty for the 21st Century”; Phi Kappa Phi; Sigma Pi Sigma; U. Colorado Graduate Fellowship; U. Iowa Honors Scholarship; Maytag Foundation Scholarship; State of Iowa Scholarship

December 19, 2020