

Karen J. MEECH



Astronomer (Professor)
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EDUCATION

- B.A. in Space Physics, Rice University, U.S.A. (1981).
- Ph.D. in Planetary Astronomy, Massachusetts Institute of Technology (1987).

PROFESSIONAL POSITIONS

- Thirty Meter Telescope AURA Representative on the Science Advisory Committee (2016-present)
- International Advisory Board, PSL Origins University (2016-present)
- Editorial Board, Life Journal (2016-present)
- COST Action US Representative (2011-present)
- Nordic Astrobiology Network, US Representative (2009-present)
- Astronomer, Institute for Astronomy, University of Hawaii (2000-present)
- Director of the UH Astrobiology Research interdisciplinary program (2005-2015)
- NASA Astrobiology Institute Executive Committee member (2005-2014)
- International Astronomical Union Division III Vice President and President (2006-2012)
- International Astronomical Union Commission 51, Bioastronomy, President (2000-2006)
- Associate Astronomer, Institute for Astronomy, University of Hawaii (1992-2000)
- Assistant Astronomer, Institute for Astronomy, University of Hawaii (1987-1992)
- Graduate Research & Teaching Assistant Massachusetts Institute of Technology (1982-1987)
- Research Specialist, AAVSO and Massachusetts Institute of Technology (1981-1982)

RESEARCH INTERESTS

- Planetary Astronomy, Comets and the Early Solar System
- Astrobiology

HONORS & AWARDS

- Heaps Physics Prize (*1981*)
- Annie Jump Cannon Award (*1988*)
- American Astronomical Society / DPS Harold C. Urey Prize (*1994*)
- Asteroid 4367 named Meech (*1996*)
- National Academy of Science/Kavli Foundation Fellow (*2006-2008*)
- William Tylor Olcott Distinguished Service Award of the American Association of Variable Star Observers (*2009*)
- Director's Research Excellence Award (*2013*)
- University of Hawai'i Regent's Medal for Research Excellence (*2015*)