

Alice E. Shapley

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Education

Ph.D. in Astronomy,
California Institute of Technology, 2003
Thesis Title: “Detailed Astrophysical Properties of Lyman Break Galaxies”
Research Advisor: Professor Charles C. Steidel

A.B. in Astronomy and Astrophysics, and Physics,
Magna Cum Laude with Highest Honors in Astronomy/Physics,
Harvard-Radcliffe University, 1997

Employment

Professor, Department of Physics and Astronomy
University of California, Los Angeles, 2013–present

Vice Chair for Astronomy and Astrophysics,
Department of Physics and Astronomy
University of California, Los Angeles, 2018–2022

Associate Professor, Department of Physics and Astronomy
University of California, Los Angeles, 2008–2013

Assistant Professor, Department of Astrophysical Sciences
Princeton University, 2005–2008

Miller Postdoctoral Fellow
University of California at Berkeley, 2003–2005

Research Interests

Galaxy formation and evolution
Feedback processes in starburst galaxies
Stellar populations and chemical evolution at high redshift
Evolution of the inter-galactic medium at high redshift

Awards and Honors

Dannie Heineman Prize from the American Astronomical Society / American Institute of Physics, 2026

Kaufmanis Lecturer, University of Minnesota, 2025

Elected Fellow, American Astronomical Society, 2025

132nd Faculty Research Lecturer, UCLA, 2022

Elected Fellow, American Physical Society, 2021

Nominated Participant, UCLA Faculty Leadership Academy, 2019–2020

Kavli Lecturer, American Astronomical Society Meeting, 2019

Biermann Lecturer, Max Planck Institute for Astrophysics, 2018

Distinguished Women Scholar Series Lecturer, University of Victoria, 2016

Marc Aaronson Memorial Lecturer, University of Arizona, 2014

UCLA Department of Physics and Astronomy Teacher of the Year, 2012

UCLA Department of Physics and Astronomy Teaching Award, 2011, 2013, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2020, 2024, 2025

McMaster Cosmology Lecturer, University of Toledo, 2010

Member of “Galaxies Across Cosmic Time” Science Frontier Panel for Astro2010 Decadal Survey, 2009–2010

David and Lucile Packard Fellow, 2006–2011

Alfred P. Sloan Research Fellow, 2006–2008

NSF Graduate Research Fellowship, 1998–2001

Virginia Gilloon Fellowship, Caltech, 1997–1998

Leo Goldberg Prize, Harvard, 1997

Publication Summary

Refereed Articles: 259

Citations: 38,748

h-index: 101

(Smithsonian/NASA Astrophysics Data System 4/10/2026)

Postdocs and Students Mentored

Princeton:

Annika Peter (graduate student)

Xin Liu (graduate student)

Charlie Conroy (graduate student)

UCLA:

David Law (postdoc, Hubble Fellow)

Daniel Nestor (postdoc)

Molly Peebles (postdoc, Center for Galaxy Evolution Fellow)

Xin Liu (postdoc, Hubble Fellow)

Evan Nunez-Cravin (postdoc, UC President’s Postdoctoral Fellow)

Katherine Kornei (graduate student, PhD August 2012)
Kevin Hainline (graduate student, PhD July 2012)
Kristin Kulas (graduate student, PhD June 2013)
Robin Mostardi (graduate student, PhD June 2015)
Ryan Sanders (graduate student, PhD June 2018)
Michelle Consiglio (graduate student)
Xinnan Du (graduate student, PhD June 2018)
Michael Topping (graduate student, PhD May 2020)
Jordan Runco (graduate student, PhD May 2022)
Anthony Pahl (graduate student, PhD May 2023)
Leonardo Clarke (graduate student)
Emily Kehoe (graduate student)
Trinity Bento (graduate student)
Natalie Lam (graduate student)
Shreya Karthikeyan (graduate student)
Katie Kaufman (undergraduate student)
Clarissa Valencia (undergraduate student)
Sarah Nagy (undergraduate student)
Cicero Lu (undergraduate student)
Peng Shao (undergraduate student)
Timothy Wilson (undergraduate student)
Katelyn Horstman (undergraduate student)
Bronson Jeong (undergraduate student)
Audrey Dunn (undergraduate student)
Grace Burton (undergraduate student)
Chinmay Varshneya (undergraduate student)
Jack Foley (undergraduate student)
Michael Karkar (undergraduate student)