

B. Ashley Zauderer-VanderLey: Candidate for At-Large Trustee



Affiliation: National Science Foundation

Position/Title: Senior Advisor for Facilities, Division of Astronomical Sciences

PhD institution: University of Maryland, 2010

Areas of scientific interest:

- Active galactic nuclei
- Supernovae, GRBs, high-energy phenomena
- Radio astronomy
- Spectrum management
- Astronomy education research

AAS and/or Division leadership positions and dates:

- n/a

Other relevant positions, experience, and dates:

- Senior Advisor for Facilities, 2021 - present, National Science Foundation. *Advise management on current and future research facilities in support of research in astronomy. Continue support of spectrum management.*
- Program Officer, 2017 – 2021, National Science Foundation. *Responsibilities included the Arecibo Observatory and Electromagnetic Spectrum Management.*
- US Head of Delegation, 2017 – present, ITU-R Working Party 7D for the Radio Astronomy Service. *Served as a US delegate to the 2019 World Radio Conference; spokesperson and subject matter expert on several agenda items.*
- Subject matter expert on US Delegation to COPUOS on satellites and astronomy, 2021.
- Sophie and Tycho Brahe Visiting Professor, 2018 – 2021, Niels Bohr Institute.
- Assistant Director, Mathematical and Physical Sciences, 2014 – 2017, John Templeton Foundation. *Led strategic planning and funding for mathematical and physical science portfolio.*
- NSF Astronomy & Astrophysics Postdoctoral Fellow, 2013 – 2014, Harvard University. *Radio observations of high-energy transients.*

- Postdoctoral Fellow, 2010 – 2014, Harvard University. *Worked in the Berger Time Domain Group.*
- Christine Mirzayan Science and Policy Technology Fellow, 2006, National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine.

Statement:

It is an honor to be nominated to serve as an At-Large Trustee. Thank you for taking the time to consider my candidacy and cast your vote in this community election. Perhaps similar to many of you, I have greatly benefited personally and professionally from the work of the AAS and am inspired by the mission to enhance and share humanity's scientific understanding of the universe.

These past months have highlighted the value of community. Technology has enabled intellectual exchange to continue, but we still miss the spark of those unplanned interactions when you bump into a colleague you have not seen for some time at a meeting. If elected, I commit to working to understand different perspectives as we grapple with challenges that inhibit our mission, while encouraging and celebrating the continuation of all that we are doing right as a society.

For those who do not know me, I will share just a little of my background. As a freshman at Agnes Scott College, astrophysics was not my intended major. However, my academic advisor happened to be Chris De Pree and he encouraged me to take astronomy classes and participate in a summer research experience at the Very Large Array. Astronomy as a profession had all the aspects I was looking for in a meaningful career: intellectually challenging, beautiful, awe-inspiring, an opportunity to teach, diverse. At the University of Maryland and since graduating, I have gained experience in a breadth of areas from basic research and teaching to domestic and international science policy, private philanthropy, and government. Most recently, I have spent a lot of effort on the challenges we face as an astronomical community with the increasingly congested electromagnetic spectrum, and the impacts we face not just at radio wavelengths, but also optical and infrared.

I fully endorse the values identified in the AAS 2021-2026 strategic plan of curiosity, integrity, inclusivity, empowerment, and sustainability. I appreciate how forward-looking our society has been with issues of diversity and inclusion and have seen improvements since my first AAS meeting as an undergraduate student. While there is still much work to be done in this area, I want to applaud so many of my colleagues for your open-mindedness and eagerness to learn together how we can be better.

Thank you again for your time and consideration. It is an honor being part of this community of astronomers and it would be my privilege to serve you with a term on the Board as an At-Large Trustee.