

# Lori Allen: Candidate for Nominating Committee

**Affiliation:** NOIRLab

**Position/Title:** Director, Mid-Scale Observatories

**PhD institution:** University of Massachusetts, 1996

**Areas of scientific interest:**

Star and planet formation; Extrasolar planets; Astrophysical probes of dark energy

**AAS and/or Division leadership positions and dates:**

- Member, Committee on Light Pollution, Radio Interference, and Space Debris, American Astronomical Society, 2017 – 2020; 2021 – present

**Other relevant positions, experience, and dates:**

- Associate Director, Kitt Peak National Observatory, 2014 – 2021
- IRAC Lead Scientist for Mission Operations and Data Analysis, 2000 – 2010

**Statement:**

I have been privileged throughout my career to work with a broad cross-section of the astronomical community. As a member of the Spitzer/IRAC instrument team (2000 – 2010), I worked with a variety of Spitzer users to maximize their science with IRAC. As the Associate Director for Kitt Peak National Observatory (2014 – 2021) I worked with a diverse group of telescope users and observatory tenants, including the large DESI collaboration and the exoplanet RV community for NEID. As the director of the Mid-Scale Observatories at NOIRLab, I oversee the operations and future development of scientific capabilities at both KPNO and Cerro Tololo InterAmerican Observatory (CTIO).

This is both an exciting and challenging time for Astronomy in the U.S. I'm super excited that Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion are now prioritized by more institutions and these efforts are expanding and improving our field. At the same time, we face extremely challenging issues around funding, sustainability, and data access. As a field we must work together, in partnerships and collaborations, to meet these challenges.



If elected to the nominating committee, I will endeavor to seek out and recognize our colleagues who represent both excellence in science and a commitment to the improvement of our profession and to the continuing efforts to democratize Astronomy.