

Margaret Meixner: Candidate for Nominating Committee

Affiliation: Stratospheric Observatory for Infrared Astronomy (SOFIA)/Universities Space Research Association (USRA)

Position/Title: Director of Science Mission Operations

PhD institution: University of California, Berkeley, 1993

Areas of scientific interest:

Nearby galaxies: infrared stellar populations, evolved star dust production, star formation at low metallicity and dust evolution; Infrared Instrumentation: JWST/MIRI, WHIRC, NIRIM, Berkcam

AAS and/or Division leadership positions and dates:

- n/a

Other relevant positions, experience, and dates:

- Chair, Executive Committee, Cosmic Origins Program Analysis Group (COPAG), 2019 – 2021
- Member, Astrophysics Advisory Committee to NASA, 2019 – 2022
- Community Co-Chair, Origins Space Telescope Science and Technology Definition Team, NASA Headquarters, 2016 – 2020
- Member, Visiting Committee, Associated Universities Inc. (AUI), 2016 – present
- Member-at-Large, Council, American Association for the Advancement of Science, 2010 – 2014
- Chair, Herschel Users Panel, NASA, 2007 – 2014
- Member, Herschel Users Group, 2007 – 2014
- Member, SOFIA Science Project Council, 2010 – 2011

Statement:

I became an astronomer because of its deep mysteries and potential for discovery. The AAS is a wonderful society that not only gathers us as a community but also communicates astronomical discoveries to the public. During my career, I have been a university professor, a staff



observatory scientist, a manager, and a director of an observatory. My varied experiences and service work have educated me to value the wide range of talent and expertise in our field. I believe and have seen that a diverse and inclusive team, institution, or society creates the best products and solutions. If elected to the nominating committee, I will work with our colleagues to identify a diverse slate of candidates for the AAS election that will ensure that the AAS is the best it can be.