

# GORDON T. RICHARDS

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## **RESEARCH INTERESTS**

Active Galactic Nuclei, Black Hole/Accretion Disk Physics, Galaxy Evolution

## **EDUCATION**

### **The University of Chicago**

Ph.D. 2000 (Sugarman Award), Astrophysics; Professor Donald G. York  
S.M. 1995, Astrophysics

### **Princeton University**

A.B. 1994 *cum laude*, Astrophysics; Professor Edwin L. Turner

## **ACADEMIC EMPLOYMENT**

August 2006 - Present, **Drexel University**

Professor of Physics (9/2015 – )

Provost's Award for Outstanding Scholarly Productivity (2017)

Humboldt Research Fellowship, Max Planck Institut für Astronomie (2013,2017)

Associate Professor of Physics (9/2010 – 8/2015)

Antelo Devereux Award for Young Faculty (2009)

Alfred P. Sloan Research Fellowship (2007–2011)

Assistant Professor of Physics (8/2006 – 8/2010)

August 2005 – July 2006, **Johns Hopkins University**

Gordon and Betty Moore Fellow; Assoc. Research Scientist

August 2002 – July 2005, **Princeton University**

Research Staff and Res. Assoc./SDSS Postdoctoral Fellow

August 2000 – July 2002, **The Pennsylvania State University**

Research Associate

## **TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

AYs 2006-2024, **Drexel University**

PHYS 131 (S+F'07–12, F'13, S+F'14, S+F'15, S'16–'19, F'19, S'21–'23)

PHYS 408 (S'08, AYs 08–12, F'12, AYs 13–19, F'19, AYs20–24)

PHYS 112 (W'07, W'08)

PHYS 114 (W'09–12, W'14–'19, W'21–'25)

PHYS 232 (F'07, F'09, F'11, F'13, F'15, F'17, F'21)

PHYS 440/540 (F'16, F'18, F'20, F'22, F'24)

Fall 2001 and Spring 2002, **The Pennsylvania State University**

Astro 10 (Introductory Astronomy)

## RECENT PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

Thomson Reuters’ “Highly Cited Researchers” 2014, 2015, 2016  
LSST AGN Science Collaboration (Co-Chair 21–23); Drexel Institutional Rep. (09–22)  
LSST Enabling Science Committee, 2017–2022 (Chair 2019–2022)  
NRAO VLASS Survey Science Group (Extragalactic Co-chair), 2014–2020  
Reviewer for NSF, NASA, *Chandra*, & *HST*  
Referee for ApJ, AJ, MNRAS, PASP, A&A, Phys. Rev. Letters  
AAS, AAAS, AAPT, and IAU Member

## RECENT GRANTS

NASA ADAP (24): “AGN/BHB Accretion Physics with Swift/BAT”; \$347k (PI)  
NASA ADAP (24): “Multi- $\lambda$  Diag. of Quasar Accretion Power”; \$103k (PI: Shemmer)  
*Chandra* (Cycle 25): “The X-ray properties of the most luminous quasars”; Co-I  
LSST Discovery Alliance: Catalyst Fellow Mentor  
*Chandra* (Cycle 24): “Identifying an Accretion-Rate Indicator for Quasars”; Co-I  
HST (Cycle 30): “UV Survey of Low-Luminosity Broad-Line AGN”, Co-I  
*Chandra* (Cycle 22): “Probing UV-X-ray Correlations in Luminous Quasars”; \$88k (PI)  
NSF (2019): “Calibrating Quasars for Cosmology”; \$102,226 (PI)  
NASA K2 (Cycle 6): “Quasar Variability as a Function of Accretion Rate”; \$40k (PI)  
HST (Cycle 25): “Application of ICA Analysis to UV Quasar Spectra”, \$85,355 (PI)  
NASA ADAP (2016): “AGN Accretion Physics: Insights from K2”; (PI: Vogeley)  
NASA ADAP (2016): “Mining the Sky for High-Redshift Quasars”; \$239,721 (PI)  
*Chandra* (Cycle 18): “Investigating X-ray Bias in Low-L, Low- $z$  Quasars”; \$80,899 (PI)  
HST (Cycle 23): “Are High- $z$  Spectroscopic BH Mass Estimates Biased?”; \$90,357 (PI)  
NSF (2013): “CDS&E: AGNs Amidst the Data Deluge”; \$179,482 (PI)  
*Spitzer* Cycle-9: “SpIES: The Spitzer-IRAC Equatorial Survey”; \$397,250 (PI)  
*Chandra* Cycle-14: “Using X-rays to Test for Black Hole Mass Biases”; \$74,996 (PI)  
NASA ADAP (2011): “The Ultimate Multiwavelength Quasar Survey”; \$244,779 (PI)  
NSF (2010): “Radio-Loud Quasars: What, When, Where, Why, & How”; \$168,310 (PI)  
*GALEX* Cycle-6: “Mid-IR Through UV SEDs of SDSS Type I Quasars”; \$40,000 (PI)  
*Spitzer* Cycle-6: “Leveraging Spitzer’s Legacy”; \$56,450 (PI)  
Alfred P. Sloan Research Fellowship (2007–2011); \$45,000

## RECENT PROFESSIONAL TALKS

Penn State Astronomy Colloquium, April 2025  
MIAPbP AGN Surveys Workshop (Invited), Garching, Germany, March 2025  
AGN Science Collaboration, Charlottesville, VA, July 2023  
AGN Winds on the Chesapeake, Easton, MD, June 2023  
Strauss-Lupton Fest, Princeton, NJ, June 2023  
Mid-Atlantic Radio Loud AGN Meeting (MARLAM), Baltimore, MD, October 2022  
University of Cambridge, Institute of Astronomy (Colloquium), Nov. 2020 (virtual)  
Pontificia Universidad Católica (Colloquium), Santiago, Chile, Aug. 2020 (virtual)  
University of Pennsylvania (Colloquium), Philadelphia, PA, Mar. 2020  
University of Delaware (Colloquium), Wilmington, DE, Mar. 2020

Carnegie Mellon University (Colloquium), Pittsburgh, PA, Feb. 2020  
 Ohio State University (Colloquium), Columbus, OH, Jan. 2020  
 Accretion History of AGN, University of Miami, Oct. 2018  
 National Radio Astronomy Observatory (Colloquium), Socorro, NM, Nov. 2017  
 AGN Winds on the Georgia Coast, Jekyll Island, GA, June 2017  
 Elusive AGN in the Next Era (Invited), George Mason Univ., June 2017  
 Quasars at All Cosmic Epochs (Invited), Padua, Italy, April 2017  
 Active Galactic Nuclei: What's in a Name?, ESO, Garching (Invited), June 2016  
 Statistical Challenges in Modern Astronomy, Carnegie Mellon Univ., June 2016  
 Great Lakes Quasar Symposium, Univ. of Western Ontario, May 2016  
 Gas/Galaxies on Top of Quasars, Univ. of Pittsburgh, April 2016  
 Royal Observatory Edinburgh, Quasar Day, June 2015

## **RECENT ADMINISTRATIVE RESPONSIBILITIES**

Co-Chair, RCM Advisory Committee (2023–)  
 At-Large Member, Faculty Senate Budget, Process, & Deve. (BP&D) Committee (2021–)  
 Chair, Faculty Senate Budget, Process, & Development (BP&D) Committee (2021–2024)  
 Ex-Officio Member, Drexel Faculty Senate (2021–; voice and vote)  
 Ex-Officio Member, Board of Trustees (BoT) Finance Comm. (2021–; voice, no vote)  
 Ex-Officio Member, BoT Investment Committee (2021–; voice, no vote)  
 Ex-Officio Member, BoT Institutional Advancement Comm. (2022–; voice, no vote)  
 Ex-Officio Member, Capital Assests Allocation Comm. (2021–2022; voice and vote)  
 Ex-Officio Member, Drexel Faculty Senate Steering Committee (2021–2024)  
 Ex-Officio Member, Drexel CoAS Faculty Senate Caucus (2021–)  
 Member, Chief Financial Officer Search Committee (2023)  
 Member, Facilities & Real Estate VP Search Committee (2021)  
 Member, Academic Resource Committee (AY18-19)  
 Member, Provost's Tenure & Promotion Review Committee (2017, 2018)  
 Member, Graduate Admissions Committee (2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2020, 2021)  
 Member, Research-administraion Action Planning Team (2019-2021)