

**DAVID RICHARD SILVA, PH.D.**

Director, UTSA Center for Space Technology & Operations  
Distinguished Professor of Physics & Astronomy  
The University of Texas at San Antonio | San Antonio, TX, USA

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Accomplished professional astronomer  
Seasoned senior manager in academic and R&D enterprises  
Broad technical experience with large telescopes, focal plane instrumentation, data systems  
Broad operational experience with geographical distributed teams & remote, high-altitude sites  
Extensive international experience in the Americas, Western Europe, and East Asia

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**PROFESSIONAL POSITIONS**

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**The University of Texas at San Antonio (San Antonio, TX, USA)**

*A rising urban serving, Carnegie R1, Hispanic Serving Institution*

2024 – present	Director, Center for Space Technology and Operations Research
2024 – present	Affiliate Faculty Member, School for Data Science
2019 – 2024	Dean, College of Sciences
2019 – present	Distinguished Professor, Physics & Astronomy

**National Optical Astronomy Observatory (NOAO) (Tucson, AZ, USA)**

*The US national observatory for night-time, ground-based optical-infrared astronomy*

2008 – 2019	NOAO Director / AURA Senior Scientist
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**Thirty Meter Telescope (TMT) (Pasadena, CA, USA)**

*A multi-billion international project to build one of the world's next great telescopes*

2008 – 2019	Observatory Scientist / AURA Senior Scientist
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**European Southern Observatory (ESO) (Garching bei München, Germany)**

*The European "national" observatory for night-time, ground-based optical-infrared astronomy*

2000 – 2005	Deputy Division Head, Data Management & Operations Division
2003 – 2005	European Leader, Joint ALMA Office Operations Working Group
2001 – 2005	Head, Data Flow Operations
1997 – 2001	Head, User Support Group

**National Optical Astronomy Observatories (NOAO) (Tucson, AZ, USA)**

*The US national observatory for night-time, ground-based optical-infrared astronomy*

1996 – 1997	Staff Astronomer, US Gemini Project Office
1994 – 1996	Project Manager, WIYN 3.5-m Telescope Project
1990 – 1993	Post-doctoral Research Associate, Kitt Peak National Observatory

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**PROFESSIONAL ACCOMPLISHMENTS, HIGHLIGHTS**

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1991	Ph.D., Astronomy, University of Michigan
1984	B.Sc., Astronomy/Physics, University of Arizona

**Languages:** English (mother tongue) , German (functional), Spanish (beginning)

Experienced mentor with post-doctoral fellows, doctoral students, and undergraduate students  
Member, Phi Kappa Phi (ΦΚΦ) honor society (2019 – present)

More than 150 professional publications (49 referred | 29 as 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, or 3<sup>rd</sup> author), h-index = 26

**Professional societies, membership:** American Astronomical Society (AAS), International Astronomical Union (IAU), American Association for the Advancement of Sciences (AAAS)

**Professional service, elected:** AURA Nominating Committee Member (2023 – 2024), IAU Division B President (Facilities, Technology, Data) (2013 – 2015), AAS Nominating Committee (2010 – 2012)

#### **Review boards or similar (senior)**

- Co-chair, external review panel, National Astronomy Observatory of Japan, 2023
- Chair, external review panel, Subaru Observatory, 2022
- Panelist, external review panel, Anglo-Australian Telescope, 2021
- Panelist, Panel on Optical and Infrared Observations from the Ground, NASEM Decadal Survey of Astronomy and Astrophysics, 2020
- Co-chair, operations & management proposal review board, NSF Mathematics & Physical Sciences (MPS) facility, 2017
- Chair, international search committee, director, ALMA, 2017
- Member, external review board, National Astronomy Observatory of Japan (NAOJ), 2015
- Member, Management review board, NSF/MPS facility, 2014
- Member, review board, Thirty Meter Telescope (TMT) operations plan, 2011
- Chair, NSF operations & management proposal review board, MPS facility, 2010
- Member, review board, NASA/SOFIA Science Management & Operations Review, 2007– 2008

#### **Boards of Directors or similar**

- University Space Research Association, Institutional Representative (2023 – present)
- Southwest Research Institute, Advisory Trustees (2019 – present)
- International Gemini Observatory, Board of Directors (2013 – 2018)
- Large Synoptic Survey Telescope (LSST) Corp., Board of Directors (2008 – 2018)
- Thirty Meter Telescope International Observatory (TIO), Board of Directors (2013 – 2018)
- WIYN Observatory, Inc., Board of Directors (2009 – 2012)