



Timothy F. Slater, Ph.D.
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Director of Cognition in Astronomy, Physics and Earth Sciences Research (CAPER)
Initial US National Chairman of the 2009 International Year of Astronomy
Astronomy Education Committee of the American Association of Physics Teachers
Education officer for the American Astronomical Society
Board of Directors the Astronomical Society of the Pacific
Councilor at large for the Society of College Science Teachers
Editorial Board of the *Astronomy Education Review*



Timothy F. Slater, Ph.D., is a professor at the University of Wyoming where he holds the Wyoming Excellence in Higher Education Endowed Chair for Science Education. Recently arrived at the University of Wyoming, he is creating a unique Ph.D. program in which his graduate students conduct education research on the teaching science. Prior to joining the faculty at the University of Wyoming, Dr. Slater was a tenured professor in the Astronomy Department at the University of Arizona where he built the first Ph.D. program in astronomy education research.

Professor Slater is the Director of the Cognition in Astronomy, Physics and Earth Sciences Research (CAPER) group where his research focuses on student conceptual understanding in formal and informal learning environments, inquiry-based curriculum development, and authentic assessment strategies, with a particular emphasis on non-science majors and pre-service teachers.

He has been the elected education officer for the American Astronomical Society, an elected member of the Board of Directors for the Astronomical Society of the Pacific, an elected councilor at large for the Society of College Science Teachers, served on the Editorial Board of the *Astronomy Education Review*, and has served multiple terms as chairman of the Astronomy Education Committee of the American Association of Physics Teachers. He represented the United States as the initial US National Chairman of the 2009 International Year of Astronomy. He is an author on more than 70-refereed articles, winner of numerous awards, and is frequently an invited speaker on improving teaching of science through educational research and improving teacher education.

For the past several years Professor Slater has assisted in the development of curriculum and served as a lead presenter for the Journey through the Universe project in the Hilo/Laupahoehoe/Waiakea Complex Area, on the Hilo side of the Big Island, Hawaii.

Professor Slater earned his Ph.D. at the University of South Carolina in geophysics and his MS from Clemson University in astrophysics. He holds two bachelors' degrees from Kansas State University, one in science education and one in physical science.