

RISA H. WECHSLER
Curriculum Vitae

Kavli Institute for Particle Astrophysics & Cosmology	Stanford Phone: (650) 736-8017
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Current Appointments

STANFORD UNIVERSITY

Director, Kavli Institute for Particle Astrophysics and Cosmology	2018 –
Director, Center for Decoding the Universe @ Stanford	2024 –
The Humanities and Sciences Professor, School of Humanities and Sciences	2023 –
Professor of Physics, School of Humanities and Sciences	2019 –
Professor of Particle Physics & Astrophysics, SLAC National Accelerator Lab	2019 –
Gregory Amadon Family University Fellow in Undergraduate Education	2020 –

Previous Appointments

STANFORD UNIVERSITY

Associate Professor of Physics and of Particle Physics & Astrophysics	2013–2019
Assistant Professor of Physics and of Particle Physics & Astrophysics	2006–2013

UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

Hubble Fellow, Astronomy & Astrophysics Department	2003–2006
Enrico Fermi Fellow, Enrico Fermi Institute	
Institute Fellow, Kavli Institute for Cosmological Physics	

UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

Research Fellow, Physics Department	2001–2003
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Education

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA AT SANTA CRUZ	1996–2001
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Ph.D. Physics, June 2001; M.S. Physics, September 1999.

MASSACHUSETTS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

S.B. Physics, minor in Mathematics, June 1996.	1992–1996
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Selected Awards

Elected Member, National Academy of Sciences	2025
Elected Member, American Academy of Arts and Sciences	2023
Outstanding Leader Award, Stanford Faculty Women's Forum	2023
Distinguished Alumna, UC Santa Cruz Division of Physical & Biological Sciences	2022
Fellow, American Association for the Advancement of Science	2020
Stanford Fellow	2019–2024
Fellow, American Physical Society	2017
Stanford Faculty Scholar	2015–2016
Nina C. Crocker Faculty Scholar, Stanford University	2013–2016
Frederick E. Terman Fellow, Stanford University	2006–2012
Kavli Frontiers Fellow, National Academy of Sciences	2006, 2009
NASA Hubble Fellow	2003–2006

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Highlighted Activities

- Research interests include cosmological simulations; structure formation and galaxy formation modeling; large-scale cosmological surveys; AI and machine learning techniques in cosmology and astrophysical inference; simulation and emulation of cosmological observables; constraining models for dark energy, dark matter, and galaxy evolution with diverse datasets.
- Leadership of major cosmological survey projects incl. DES, DESI, LSST; Member of US Euclid Team and Roman Space Telescope PIT; Co-PI SAGA Survey; ExecCom Via Project.
- Primary advisor of 14 completed PhD students, 6 current PhD students, 33 current and former postdoctoral fellows. Advised 28+ undergraduate research projects at Stanford, 2006-present. Significant contributions to open-source code and public datasets.
- Frequent public lectures, including Morrison Planetarium, TED@NAS; World Science Festival; Royal Institution, London; California Academy of Sciences; SciFoo.
- Recent press coverage and writing includes PBS Nova, Science Channel, BBC Horizon, Symmetry Magazine, Sky & Telescope, Scientific American, Teen Vogue, NPR.

Major Positions and Leadership

Exec Committee and Founding Member, Via Collaboration	2024–present
Exec Committee, Roman Space Telescope Project Infrastructure Team	2023–present
SLAC Point of Contact, LSST Dark Energy Science Collaboration	2021–present
Director, Kavli Institute for Particle Astrophysics and Cosmology	2018–present
Management Committee, Fundamental Physics Directorate, SLAC	2018–present
Founding Chair, Physics Dept Committee on Equity & Inclusion	2016–2019
Founding Co-Spokesperson, Dark Energy Spectroscopic Instrument (DESI)	2014–2018
Builder and Founding Member, Dark Energy Survey (DES)	2014–present

Boards and Advisory Committees

Scientific Advisory Board, Flatiron Institute	2025–present
Co-Chair, NASA Roman High Latitude Wide Area Survey Definition Committee	2024
Member, LSST Discovery Alliance Executive Board	2023–present
Member, NSF Next Generation Gravitational Wave Observatory Subcommittee	2023–2024
Member, Space Telescope Science Institute Visiting Committee	2023–present
Member, Rubin Observations Management Board	2022–present
Member, National Academy of Sciences Board on Physics and Astronomy	2021–present
Board of Trustees, Aspen Center for Physics	2020–present
Scientific Advisory Committee, National OIR Lab (NOIRLab)	2020–2024
Board of Fund Managers, Kavli Institute for Cosmology, Cambridge	2020–2024
Science Advisory Committee, Rubin Observatory/LSST	2016–2023
Physics & Astronomy Leadership Council, Heising-Simons Foundation	2017–2020
Advisory Board Chair, Kavli Institute for Theoretical Physics	2017–2018
Advisory Board, Kavli Institute for Theoretical Physics	2015–2019
General Member, Aspen Center for Physics	2015–2025
Member, High Energy Physics Advisory Panel (HEPAP)	2015–2018

Publications Summary

382+ refereed publications; 67K+ total citations; h -index = 123.
Full publication list: <https://orcid.org/0000-0003-2229-011X>