

Biographical Sketch

Alexander J. Dessler

- Date & Place of Birth:** October 21, 1928
San Francisco, California
- Education:** B.S., Physics, 1952, California Institute of Technology
Ph.D., Physics, 1956, Duke University
- Positions Held:**
- 2007 – Present
Adjunct Professor
Department of Atmospheric Science
Texas A&M University
 - 1993 - 2007
Senior Research Scientist
Lunar and Planetary Laboratory
University of Arizona
 - July 1986 - June 1993
and 1963 - 1982
Professor of Space Physics and Astronomy
Rice University
 - 1987 - 1992
1979 - 1982
and 1963 - 1969
Chairman, Department of Space Physics & Astronomy
Rice University
 - 1982 - 1986
Director, Space Science Laboratory
NASA Marshall Space Flight Center
 - 1979 - 1983
Vice President, International Association of
Geomagnetism and Aeronomy
 - 1975 - 1981
President, Universities Space Research Association

1974 - 1976

Manager, Campus Business Affairs
Rice University

1973 - 1974

Chairman, Rice University Self-Study

1969 - 1970

Science Advisor, National Aeronautics & Space
Council, Washington, D.C.

1962 - 1963

Professor, Division of Atmospheric and Space Sciences,
Southwest Center for Advances Studies (now University
of Texas at Dallas)

1956 - 1962

Senior Scientist, Section Head, Lockheed Missiles and
Space Company, Palo Alto, Calif.

1955 - 1956

Research Associate, Duke University

Memberships:

American Association for the Advancement of
Science (Fellow)

American Geophysical Union (Fellow)

International Association of Geomagnetism and
Aeronomy - Executive Committee, 1971 - 1983;
Vice President, 1979 - 1983

American Astronomical Society, Division of Planetary
Sciences

Foreign Member, Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences
(1996 - present)

Honors and Awards:

American Geophysical Union
James B. Macelwane Award (1963)

Air Force Association, Texas Wing, Award for
Outstanding Contribution to Aerospace Science during
1963 (1964)

Soviet Geophysical Committee, Medal for Contributions to International Geophysics (1984)

Rotary National, Stellar Award for Academic Development (1988).

John Adam Fleming Medal, American Geophysical Union (1993)

Foreign Member, Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences (1996)

American Geophysical Union
William Kaula Award (2003)

National Academy of Sciences
Arctowski Medal (2015)

**Editorial/Journal
Affiliations:**

1986 – approx. 2000
Series Editor, *Atmospheric and Space Science Series*
Cambridge University Press

1986 - 1989
Editor-in-Chief, *Geophysical Research Letters*

1980 - 1985
Associate Editor, *Space Solar Power Review*

1969 - 1974
Editor, *Reviews of Geophysics and Space Physics*

1965 - 1969
Editor, *Journal of Geophysical Research*
1963 - 1968
Associate Editor, *Reviews of Geophysics*

1966 - 1976
Editor, *Space, Earth, and Atmospheric Sciences Textbook Series* (formerly *Space Science Textbook Series*)
John Wiley Publishers

1963 - 1992
Editorial Advisory Board, *Planetary and Space Science*