

## Biographical Sketch

### Education and Training

- 1966 Neil Cummins Grade School, Corte Madera CA  
 1970 Redwood High School, Larkspur, CA  
 1974 B.S. Mathematics, Stanford University, CA  
 1980 Ph.D. Astronomy & Astrophysics, UC Santa Cruz & Lick Observatory, CA

### Research and Professional Experience

- 1974 : Research Assistant, Nuclear Physics Laboratory, University of Washington  
 1981 — 1982: Postdoctoral Fellowship, University of Washington  
 1983 — 1986: Carnegie/Las Campanas Fellowship, Carnegie Observatories of Washington DC  
 1984 : Visiting Fellow, Dominion Astrophysical Observatory, Herzberg Institute of Astrophysics, Victoria, Canada  
 1986 — 1990: Assistant Astronomer, National Optical Astronomy Observatory  
 1990 — 1996: Associate Astronomer, National Optical Astronomy Observatory  
 1996 — 2004: Astronomer, National Optical Astronomy Observatory  
 2004 — 2006: Associate Director for Science, National Optical Astronomy Observatory  
 2006 — : Mitchell/Heep/Munnerlyn Chair in Observational Astronomy, Department of Physics, Texas A&M University, & Director of the Astronomy Program  
 2006 — : Adjunct Professor of Astronomy, Department of Astronomy, University of Texas  
 2006 — : Deputy Director, Mitchell Institute for Fundamental Physics & Astronomy  
 2013 — : University Distinguished Professor

### Related Experience

International Astronomical Union member; IAU Commissions 29, 30, 37, 50; Cerro Tololo Inter-American Obs. Users' Committee 1984-6; Gemini Science Operations Working Group 1997; CTIO TAC 1990-98, NOAO TAC 1999-2003; Chilean Astronomy TAC 2000; Chilean Gemini TAC 2004-; NOAO Director Search Committee(2000); Dark Energy Task Force (2005-6); Councilor American Astronomical Society (2007-9); AAS Committee on Astronomy and Public Policy (2007+); DOE review of LBNL Physics Division (2006,7,2010); DOE review of Stanford KIPAC (2007); DOE review of DEC at Fermilab (2007,8); NASA Astrophysics Panel (2007-10); HST panels (1994,6,7,2005) and TAC (2008,2016); GSMT-SWG (2007+); GMT Board (2007-12); supervisor for 5 thesis students; Vice President, American Astronomical Society (2010-3); Board of Directors, Las Cumbres Observatory; Board of Directors, AdventGX, Inc.; Board of Directors, Brazos County Natural History Museum (2009-2016).

White House Subcommittee on Disaster Reduction 2011-; US State Department Libya Task Force 2011; US UN Representative for Disaster Risk Reduction 2011; US Representative to the Organization of American States for Disaster Risk Reduction 2011; US Representative to the Midterm Review of the Hyogo Framework for Action for the Americas 2011; Science Advisor to the Bureau of Oceans, Environment, and Science at the US State Department 2011

### Awards

- Valedictorian, Redwood High School (1970) Larkspur, CA  
 Phi Beta Kappa (1974) Stanford University  
 B.S. with distinction in Mathematics, Stanford University (1974)  
 University of California at Santa Cruz Fellowship (1974)  
 Robert J. Trumpler Award for the outstanding PhD thesis of North America, 1980, Astronomical Society of the Pacific (1983)  
 Las Campanas Fellowship (1982-6)  
 AURA Achievement Award for Outstanding Science (1999, 1992)

Science Magazine “Science Breakthrough of the Year Award” for the discovery of the accelerating universe (1998)  
ISI Highly Cited Space Scientist (250 worldwide) (2003-2015)  
Gruber Prize in Cosmology (2007)  
Top Astronomy Discovery of the last 35 years, Astronomy Magazine (2009)  
Jefferson Senior Science Fellow at US State Dept, National Academy of Sciences – 2010-11  
Association of Former Students of Texas A&M – Distinguished Achievement Award 2012  
George H.W. Bush Foundation Award for International Scientific Research – 2013  
Breakthrough Prize in Fundamental Physics – 2015  
APS US/Brazil Professorship/Lectureship 2016

### **Selected Publications**

h-index	82	
citations	35176	
refereed publications	253	412 non-refereed publications

A. Reiss et al, Observational Evidence from Supernovae for an Accelerating Universe and a Cosmological Constant *AJ* **116**, 1009 (1998).  
P. Garnavich et al, Supernova Limits on the Cosmic Equation of State, *ApJ* **509**, 74 (1998).  
B. Schmidt et al, The High-Z Supernova Search: Measuring Cosmic Deceleration and Global Curvature of the Universe Using Type IA Supernovae, *ApJ* **507**, 46, (1998).  
N.B. Suntzeff, et al. Optical Light Curve of the Type IA Supernova 1998bu in M96 and the Supernova Calibration of the Hubble Constant, *AJ* **117**, 1175(1999).  
J. Tonry et al, Cosmological Results from High-z Supernovae, *ApJ* **594**, 1, (2003).  
Rest A., Suntzeff, NB, et al, Light echoes from ancient supernovae in the Large Magellanic Cloud, *Nature*, 438, 1132, 2005

### **Synergistic Activities**

NBS has studied supernovae and cosmology since 1985. He has run observing programs at major observatories studying supernovae of all types, and has helped build direct imaging cameras with digital detectors and fiber-fed spectrographs. He has had extensive experience in calibrating ground-based detectors, and publishing fundamental spectrophotometric standards. NBS cofounded the Calan/Tololo Supernova Survey in 1990 which established the use of Type Ia supernovae as the most accurate distance indicators in the distant universe, leading to the most accurate measurement of the Hubble constant when combined with the HST Cepheid calibrations. In 1994, he co-founded the High-Z Supernova Team with Brian Schmidt, which discovered dark energy/acceleration in 1998. He is fluent in Spanish and gave public talks about astronomy to Chilean students. He has been hired at Texas A&M University to begin a major astronomy program and to co-ordinate the TAMU participation in the Giant Magellan Project. He is presently working on the projects: Carnegie Supernova Survey, the Hobby-Eberly Telescope Dark Energy Experiment, the Fermilab Dark Energy Camera Survey, the Large Synoptic Survey Telescope, and the Kunlun Station at the Chinese Station at Dome Argus, Antarctica.

### **Graduate and Postdoctoral Advisors**

PhD.Advisor: Robert P. Kraft, Lick Observatory. Postdoctoral Advisors: G. Wallerstein, U Washington, L. Searle, OCIW

### **Thesis Advisor and Postgraduate-Scholar Sponsors**

NBS advised the following students, but was not their principal thesis advisor: Lisa Germany (ANU), Mario Hamuy (UCHile), Inese Ivans (U Texas), Paulina Lira (UCHile), Lou Strolger (U Michigan), Max Stritzinger (LCO), Tamara Davis (Stockholm). NBS has served as post-graduate advisor to: K. Krisciunas (TAMU), J. Arenas (UCHile), A. Rest (Harvard), G. Fotelli (UCHile), H. Marion (Texas), Luis Boldt (UCHile). NBS is supporting one graduate student Andrew Quick and has graduated one TAMU PhD student Michael Smitka 2016.

His undergraduate thesis advisors were Dr. Walter Meyerhof (Physics) and Dr. Karel de Leeuw (Mathematics); and graduate advisors Dr Robert Kraft, Dr. Alvio Renzini, and Dr. Albert Whitford.