

Jean-Luc Margot

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Academic Positions

Chair, Dept. of Earth, Planetary, and Space Sciences, UCLA, 2016–present.
Professor, Dept. of Earth, Planetary, and Space Sciences, UCLA, 2009–present.
Professor, Dept. of Physics and Astronomy, UCLA, 2009–present.
Professor, Dept. of Astronomy, Cornell University, 2004–2008.
Postdoctoral Fellow, Caltech, 2001–2003.
Postdoctoral Research Associate, Arecibo Observatory, Puerto Rico, 1999–2001.
Graduate Research Assistant, Dept. of Astronomy, Cornell University, 1994–1999.
Erasmus Fellow, Electromagnetics Institute, Technical University of Denmark, 1993.

Education

Ph.D., Astronomy, Cornell University, 1999.
B.S., Electrical Engineering, Université Catholique de Louvain, Belgium, 1993.

Select Honors and Awards

Knight of the Order of the Crown (Belgium), 2018.
NASA Group Achievement Award, 2018.
William E. and Elva F. Gordon Distinguished Lectureship, 2013.
American Astronomical Society Harold C. Urey Prize, 2004.
O.K. Earl Prize Fellow in Planetary Science, Caltech, 2001.
Asteroid (9531) Jean-Luc named by International Astronomical Union, 2001.
European Union Erasmus Fellow, Technical University of Denmark, 1993.

Publication Metrics

Authored or co-authored over 100 peer-reviewed research articles or book chapters.
Authored or co-authored 15 articles in *Science* or *Nature*.
Authored or co-authored 9 book chapters.
Citation h-index of 43 ([Google Scholar](#)).
Citation count exceeding 6600.

Invited Lectures

Gave over 50 invited lectures (Caltech, Stanford, UC Berkeley, MIT, Princeton, Cornell, etc.).

Research Grants

Raised \$4 million in research funds from federal agencies (NASA, NSF).

Mentoring Experience

Mentored 3 postdocs, 11 graduate students, and 19 undergraduate students.

Select Teaching Experience

EPSS 3 Astrobiology, F09, F10, F11, F12, F13, F14, F15, F16, F17, F18, UCLA.
EPSS 9 Solar System and Planets, S09, W10, S11, W13, W14, UCLA.
EPSS 152/200A Physics of Earth and Planets, F15, UCLA.
EPSS 179/279 Search for Extraterrestrial Intelligence, S16, S17, S18, UCLA.
EPSS 200E Planetary Origins, W12, UCLA.
EPSS 298 Celestial Mechanics, S12, UCLA.

Select Management Experience

In first two years as Department Chair (July 1, 2016–present):

- Oversaw research operations with \$24.5M in annual extramural funding.
- Raised endowment funds from about \$3.6M to \$5.4M (including matching funds).
- Organized public talks with hundreds of attendees to promote engagement.
- Recruited prominent public figure to Board of Advisors.
- Increased transparency, consistency, and equity in hiring and promotion.

Select Education and Public Outreach Experience

Gave over 10 television interviews (CNN, Reuters, CBS 2, KCAL 9, Univision, News 10, etc.).
Gave over 14 radio interviews (KPCC, KTRH, WHYY, ABC, Radio Canada, France Inter, etc.).
Gave dozens of newspaper interviews (WSJ, NYT, WaPo, LA Times, AP, etc.).
Gave dozens of astronomy press interviews (Space.com, New Scientist, Science News, etc.).
Gave dozens of public talks (schools, museums, clubs, alumni, cruises, Boeing, SpaceX, etc.).
Moderated or participated in 8 panel discussions (XPRIZE, AAS, NASA Administrator, etc.).
Organized 5 public viewing events (stargazing, transit of Venus, solar eclipse, etc.).

Consulting for Entertainment Industry

Advised 13 screenwriters or producers on scientific matters.

Research Interests

Planetary dynamics, geophysics, and geodesy
Architecture of planetary systems
Radar and radio astronomy
Search for technosignatures (aka SETI)

Professional Organizations

American Geophysical Union (Planetary Sciences Section, Geodesy Section).
American Astronomical Society (Planetary Sciences, Dynamical Astronomy).
Committee on Space Research (Commissions B Planets, E Astrophysics, F Life Sciences).
International Astronomical Union (Divisions A, B, and F Planetary Systems and Bioastronomy).
International Union of Radio Science (Commission J Radio Astronomy).
SETI Permanent Committee of the International Academy of Astronautics.