Biographical sketch: Dr. Dana Edward Backman

Current Appointment (since January 2016):
Principal Investigator, NASA Airborne Astronomy Ambassadors project

SETI Institute	[AND]	NASA Ames Research Center
189 Bernardo Ave. Suite 200		Building N232 Room 151-18
Mountain View, CA 94043		Moffett Field, CA 94035
650-793-3302 (personal cell)		650-604-2128
dbackman {at} seti.org		dana.e.backman {at} nasa.gov

Dana Backman manages the NASA Airborne Astronomy Ambassadors (AAA) program that is funded by a Cooperative Agreement between NASA SMD and the SETI Institute. He also serves as one of the three flight facilitators accompanying AAA teachers on SOFIA research flights.

Academic Degrees:
Ph.D. in Astrophysics, University of Hawai`i (1985)
M.Sc. in Physics & Astronomy, University of Hawai`i (1980)
B.Sc. in Physics, Massachusetts Institute of Technology (1977)

Professional Background:
2003-2016 Director of Outreach Programs, Stratospheric Observatory for Infrared Astronomy
1999-2014 Adjunct Instructor of Physics & Astronomy, Santa Clara University
2005-2011 Adjunct Instructor of Science, Continuing Studies Program, Stanford University
1991-2003 Assoc. Professor of Physics & Astronomy (with tenure), Franklin & Marshall College
1989-1991 National Research Council Postdoctoral Fellow, NASA Ames Research Center
1985-1989 Postdoctoral Researcher & Support Scientist, Kitt Peak National Observatory

Most recent 1st-author refereed scientific publication:
D. Backman et al. 2009, "Epsilon Eridani's Planetary Debris Disk: Structure & Dynamics Based on Spitzer & Caltech Submillimeter Observatory Observations" *Astrophysical Journal*, 690, 1522.

College introductory astronomy textbooks (© Cengage Learning; co-author Michael A. Seeds):
Foundations of Astronomy (14e); Horizons: Exploring the Universe (14e); ASTRO (3e)

Awards & honors:
2014: NASA Group Achievement Awards, SOFIA Outreach Team, Lead
2012: NASA Group Achievement Award, SOFIA AAA Pilot Program, Lead
2011: NASA Group Achievement Award, SOFIA Outreach Team, Lead