

RESUME

RITA MARIA SAMBRUNA, Ph.D., OMRI, HonFRAS

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Dr. Sambruna is one of the foremost experts and world leaders in the extragalactic astronomy field of Active Galactic Nuclei (AGN). In particular, she has done seminal work on the formation and radiative properties of extragalactic jets. These subjects are among the most important central questions of modern astrophysics. Her leadership, management, and professional activities have been widely acknowledged and honored.

- Seasoned professional with experience in academia and government.
- Thought leader and expert in astrophysics; research/analytic methodology; program/project management; Executive management.
- Pioneered research in field; achieved institutional change; advanced scientific programs under management.
- *Known for achieving strong science leadership, ground-breaking astrophysical research in an important subfield, advocating for and advancing major programs and missions at NASA, and for advancing Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Accessibility in the work environment.*

EXPERIENCE:

Deputy Director (Acting, SES), Sciences and Exploration Directorate (Code 600)	Sep 2022 – May 2023
Deputy Director, Astrophysics Science Division (Code 660), NASA-GSFC	Jul 2020 – Present
Member, NASA Astrophysics Advisory Committee	Jul 2022–Jun 2023
Member, NASA Science Workforce Study Implementation Team	Apr 2021 – 2023
Co-Chair of the NASA Hubble Fellowship Program panel review	Apr 2021 – Sep 2021
Detail, Science Mission Directorate (SMD), NASA HQs	Sep 2019 – Apr 2021
Acting Associate Lab Chief, Code 663, NASA-GSFC	Feb 2020 – Jun 2020
Program Scientist & Manager NASA Astrophysics Decadal Studies, NASA HQs	Sep 2015 – Jun 2020
Chair, Source Evaluation Board (NASA Postdoctoral Program), NASA HQs	Apr 2014 – Aug 2014
Detail, Offices of Strategy Formulation & of the Chief Technologist, NASA HQs	Sep 2012 – Aug 2013
Program Scientist (GS15) Astrophysics Division, Science Mission Dir., NASA HQs	Sep 2010 – Jun 2020
SPSO Acting Chief Science Proposals Submission Office NASA-GSFC	Feb 2010 – Sep 2010
Senior Astrophysicist (GS15) NASA-GSFC	Jul 2005 – Sep 2010
Clare Boothe Luce Professor of Astrophysics, Dep. Physics, George Mason Univ.	Sep 2000 – Jul 2005
NRC Research Fellow NASA-GSFC	Mar 1995 – Jul 1997

EDUCATION:

- Ph.D. [1994] – Astrophysics, International School for Advanced Studies, Trieste, Italy
- M.Phil. [1992] – Astrophysics, International School for Advanced Studies, Trieste, Italy
- *Laurea* [1989] – Physics, University of Milan, Italy

AWARDS & HONORS (most recent):

- Bucy Lectureship, Texas Tech University (2024)
- Elected Chair of Section D, AAAS (2024)
- Keynote speaker at the Italian Association of Physics Students, 03/2024, in Milan, Italy
- Royal Astronomical Society, Honorary Fellow (2023)
- Agency Honor Award for DEIA (2022)
- Robert H. Goddard Honor Award for DEIA (2022)
- NASA/GSFC Special Act Awards (2022, 2021)
- American Association for the Advancement of Science, Fellow (2022)
- American Astronomical Society, Fellow (2021)
- American Physical Society, Fellow (2020)
- NASA Exceptional Achievement Medal (2019)
- NASA Group Achievement Award (2019)
- Clare Boothe Luce Professorship, The Henry Luce Foundation (2000 – 2005)
- CAREER award, NSF (2003 – 2005) and LTSA award, NASA (2002 – 2005)
- NRC Postdoctoral Research Fellowship (1995 – 1997)

IN THE MEDIA (most recent)

- 20 March 2022, Corriere della Sera (Italy), *Gli esopianeti*, interview (in Italian)
- 16 November 2021, Innovation Forum, IAB, Milan, Italy, interview (in Italian)
- 15 September 2021, Corriere della Sera (Italy), Colazioni Digitali, *La Diversity dell'Universo*, interview (in Italian)
- 04 August 2021, Impact Journey with Julia S., Redefining a Culture of Excellence, podcast
- 25 June 2021, Corriere della Sera (Italy), *Innovazione*, interview (in Italian)

PUBLICATIONS:

Dr. Sambruna is one of the foremost experts and world leaders in the extragalactic astronomy field of Active Galactic Nuclei (AGN). In particular, she has done seminal work on the formation and radiative properties of extragalactic jets. These subjects are among the most important central questions of modern astrophysics.

- 391 publications, of which 160 are papers in all major refereed astrophysical journals (including *Nature*), first author on 105. (Full list available upon request.)
- 12,452 citations, h-index of 59 [as of 18 Feb 2024]
- 90 contributions to conferences and meetings
- 60 invited colloquia at national/international conferences and Institutions
- Invited chapter on X-ray jets in AGN in the topical book “Extragalactic Jets” published in 2011 by John Wiley and Sons