

Gordon E. Swaters, PhD



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Academic Biography

Gordon received the Honours BMath in Applied Mathematics from the University of Waterloo, the MSc and PhD in Applied Mathematics and Physical Oceanography from the University of British Columbia, and completed post-doctoral studies in the Department of Earth, Atmospheric and Planetary Sciences at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

Since joining the University of Alberta, Gordon has held concurrent visiting positions at the National Center for Atmospheric Research in Boulder, USA, the Isaac Newton Institute for the Mathematical Sciences in Cambridge, UK, and the French Institute for the Research and the Exploitation of the Sea in Brest, France.

Gordon's research is focused on understanding the planetary-scale dynamics of ocean currents – a key component in Earth's evolving climate. Gordon has published 110 refereed research articles, authored the graduate-level textbook *Introduction to Hamiltonian Fluid Dynamics and Stability Theory*, given 62 invited lectures in 15 countries, has successfully supervised 22 MSc and PhD students, and has received over \$7.75M in peer-reviewed individual and team research grants.

Gordon has received the *CAIMS*SCMAI Research Prize* from the *Canadian Applied and Industrial Mathematics Society* and the *President's Prize* from the *Canadian Meteorological and Oceanographic Society* for his research. Within the University, Dr. Swaters has received the *Faculty of Science Research Award*, the *McCalla Research Professorship*, and the *Killam Annual Professorship*.

Gordon has served the UofA as Lead Negotiator and President of the Association of Academic Staff, Director of the Applied Mathematics Institute, Project Coordinator for the Faculty of Science, President of the Faculty Club, Associate Chair of Mathematical and Statistical Sciences (Graduate Studies & Research), and Associate Director of the Institute for Geophysical Research.

Previous responsibilities in AASUA/CAFA/CAUT

1996-present: AASUA Council

1996-2002: AASUA Salary Committee (also 2014-17, Chair 2000-02, 2016-17)

1999-2005: AASUA Executive (also 2012-22)

2001-02: AASUA Compensation Negotiating Team (also 2004-05, 2007-08, 2010-11, 2012-13, 2014-16)

2002-04: AASUA Representative to Confederation of Alberta Faculty Associations (CAFA)
2002-03: AASUA Vice-president; 2003-04, AASUA President; 2004-05, AASUA Past-president
2003-04: CAFA, Treasurer
2003-04: AASUA Representative to Canadian Association of University Teachers (CAUT) Council
2002-09: AASUA Sponsor Representative to Universities' Academic Pension Plan (UAPP)
2008-09: Academic Supplementary Pension Plan (ASRP) Implementation Committee
2008-16: AASUA Past Presidents' Committee
2010-13: CAUT, Collective Bargaining and Economic Benefits Committee (CBEB) (also 2014-17)
2010-present: AASUA, Academic Faculty Committee (Vice-chair 2012-14)
2013-present: Co-Chair of ASRP Operations Committee
2013-present: ASRP Management Committee
2014-16: Chair of AASUA Benefits Committee
2014-present: Co-Chair of Academic Benefits Management Committee (ABMC)
2016-17: AASUA Lead Negotiator on the Agreement Review Committee (ARC) to negotiate changes to the Collective Agreements to implement "Comprehensive Collective Bargaining" with strike/lockout provisions
2017-19: AASUA Lead Negotiator in Comprehensive Collective Bargaining (also 2019-2022)

Why I am running for President of AASUA

I am running for President of AASUA alongside my colleagues Kristine Smitka (for Vice-President), Randa Kachkar (for Treasurer), Terra Garneau (for Equity Officer), because we strongly believe the AASUA is at a critical juncture. Since 2017 our union has been in the process of adapting to its new-found right to strike - and now all of us are in a position to benefit from an engaged membership who have lived the experience of a tumultuous and arduous collective bargaining process.

A vote for each of the members of this slate is a vote to build on the learning experience of the recent round of bargaining. We have the advantage of having collaborated on AASUA's Executive over the last two years, which gives us the necessary experience to defend our members' desire to work at a leading U15 research and teaching intensive university that treats its academic staff with respect and dignity.

As a research-oriented applied mathematician with a strong demonstrated commitment to excellence in teaching, I have a proven track-record of directly and successfully engaging with the Employer on behalf of the members of AASUA on multiple occasions over many years. Recently, in addition to having served as AASUA Lead Negotiator to implement "comprehensive collective bargaining" with strike/lockout provisions, and in the last two rounds of collective bargaining, respectively, I have also served as co-Chair of the Academic Benefits Management Committee (ABMC), which provides collegial joint governance of our Academic Benefits Plan.

I resolutely hold the view that the best way to ensure comprehensive academic freedom and a Just Workplace is through collegial governance and vigorously defending, advancing and improving the collective agreement. My commitment to you is continue to do just that to the very best of my abilities as President over the next two years.

Please vote for experience, hard work, and inclusivity!

Please vote for the Garneau-Kachkar-Smitka-Swaters Team!