

# John A. Girash | Curriculum Vitae

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## Education

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### Harvard University

*Ph.D., Physics* 2010

### Harvard University

*A.M., Physics* 1993

### University of Western Ontario

*B.Sc.(Hon.), Physics* 1990

## Experience

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### Professional and Research

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### Harvard John A. Paulson School of Engineering and Applied Sciences Cambridge, MA

*Director of Graduate Academic Programs* 2014–present

- Oversee academic progress of ~ 450 graduate students from across SEAS.
- Coordinate with faculty and school leadership on academic policy and student issues
- Collaborate with and mentor graduate council of students.

### Derek Bok Center for Teaching and Learning

Harvard University

*Associate Director* 2005–2014

*Senior Teaching Consultant* 1998–2005

Pedagogical support for departments, faculty, and TAs, primarily in natural sciences and engineering.

- Co-PI on Sloan Foundation grant to Harvard GSAS for “future faculty” learning-assessment training
- Consult with faculty, graduate and postdoctoral instructors on courses, teaching, and assessments
- Coordinate support for “Activity-Based Learning” (service- and field-learning) courses

### Harvard-Smithsonian Center for Astrophysics

Cambridge, MA

*Research Assistant* 2000–2003

Modelling dynamics of stellar systems.

### University of Western Ontario

London, ON

*Postgraduate Researcher* 1990

Laser spectroscopy; atmospheric plasma physics.

## Teaching

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### **School of Engineering and Applied Sciences**

*Lecturer on Engineering and Applied Sciences  
and Lead Instructor*

Engineering Sciences 301: SEAS Teaching Practicum (*formerly CS 365*)

- Developed and teach SEAS' first graduate teaching practicum.

**Harvard University**

*2011–present  
2008–2010*

### **Derek Bok Center for Teaching and Learning**

*Seminar Leader*

“Designing the Course of the Future” seminar, sponsored by a grant from the Teagle Foundation

- Teach the Center's seminal Teaching Certificate course on course design, as well as other graduate and faculty seminars on assessment, active learning, cognition, and science teaching.

**Harvard University**

*2010–2014*

### **Department of Physics**

*Assisting Instructor*

Physics 302: Teaching and Communicating Physics

- Consulted on developing Physics' first graduate teaching practicum, and assist in its teaching.

**Harvard University**

*2012–2014*

### **Department of Statistics**

*Assisting Instructor*

Statistics 303hf: The Art and Practice of Teaching Statistics

**Harvard University**

*2009–2011*

## Publications

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J. Girash. Metacognition and Instruction. In V. A. Benassi, C. E. Overson, and C. M. Hakala, editors, *Applying the Science of Learning in Education: Infusing psychological science into the curriculum*, pages 152–168. Society for the Teaching of Psychology (American Psychological Association, Division 2), 2014. <http://teachpsych.org/ebooks/asle2014/index.php>.

J. Girash. Talking with Faculty About Cognitive Science and Learning. *POD Network Teaching Excellence Essay Series*, 22, 2011.

J. Girash. Reflections on Old, New, and Renewed Centers for Teaching and Learning. In E. M. A. de Aguiar Pereira, D. M. Grassi-Kassise, and G. Celani, editors, *Inovações Curriculares 2011, Experiências no Ensino Superior*, pages 37–57. Universidade Estadual de Campinas, Sao Paulo (Brazil), 2011.

J. Girash. *A Fokker-Planck Model of Dense Rotating Stellar Clusters*. PhD thesis, Harvard University, 2009.

J. Girash. A Fokker-Planck Model of Rotating Stellar Clusters. In D. A. Clarke and M. J. West, editors, *The 12th “Kingston Meeting”: Computational Astrophysics*, volume 123 of *Astronomical Society of the Pacific Conference Series*, pages 196–201, San Francisco, 1997.

## Invited Presentations

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### **Learning Outcomes in Course Design**

*Innovative Teaching for Deeper Learning / Universidad Diego Portales*  
LASPAU: Academic and Professional Programs for the Americas

**March 2015**  
Cambridge, MA

### **Mindful Teaching: Where Metacognition Meets Instruction**

*Program on Innovative Teaching and Learning / Instituto Expertise*  
LASPAU: Academic and Professional Programs for the Americas

**Nov. 2013**  
Cambridge, MA

### **The Future is Now; Promise and Peril in Online Learning**

*The Western Conference on Science Education*  
Plenary panelist with T. Bates, D. Kennepohl, and J. Doerksen

**July 2013**  
University of Western Ontario

### **Cognitive Processes Most Conducive to Learning**

*New England Association of Schools & Colleges' 127th Annual Meeting*  
Invited panelist with S. Ambrose and V. Benassi

**Dec. 2012**  
Boston

### **Lessons and Challenges to Improve Teaching and Learning**

*Program on Innovative Teaching and Learning*  
LASPAU: Academic and Professional Programs for the Americas

**Oct. 2012**  
Cambridge, MA

### **Learning and Retention in STEM Courses**

*Council of Graduate Schools, New Deans Institute and Summer Workshop*  
with R. Lancor

**July 2012**  
Boston

### **Establishment of Teaching and Learning Centers to Support Faculty**

*Inovações Curriculares 2011*  
Invited plenary talk, Universidade Estadual de Campinas

**Dec. 2011**  
Campinas, Brazil

### **TA–Student Interactions**

*Physics Teaching Assistants Forum*  
Sponsored by the American Association of Physics Teachers

**April 2006**  
Boston University

### **New Faculty for the Academy of the 21st Century**

*Association of American Colleges & Universities Annual Meeting*  
Invited panelist

**Jan. 2001**  
New Orleans, LA

## Awards and Fellowships

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- Harvard University *Certificate of Teaching Excellence*, 2017
- *Project Kaleidoscope Fellow*, 2000
- Harvard University Dept. of Physics *Harold T. White Prize for Excellence in Teaching*, 1995
- Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada [NSERC] *1967 Science & Engineering Scholarship*, 1990-1994
- University of Western Ontario *R.C. Dearle Gold Medal in Physics*, 1990
- NSERC *Undergraduate Student Research Award*, 1988, 1989, 1990

## Service

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### Academic.....

#### **Harvard University Extension School:**

Mathematics for Teaching Graduate Program Advisory Board *2010–2016*

#### **Harvard College:**

Board of Freshman Advisors *2007-2008, 2016-present*

Pedagogical Trainer, Program in International Education *2011-2014*

Science Advisory Committee *2006-2008*

Sophomore & Nonresident Tutor, Pforzheimer House *1993-2001*

#### **Harvard University Press:**

Manuscript Reviewer *2010-2011*

### Non-Academic.....

#### **The Outdoor Church of Cambridge:**

Treasurer, and member of Board of Directors *2016-present*

## Affiliations

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**Professional Associations:** American Physical Society

**Citizenships:** US, Canada