



**Curriculum Vita  
May 2026**

**Instructor:** W. Lee Powell Jr., Adjunct Professor of Physics  
**Academic Department:** Department of Physics and Astronomy

**University Address:** Department of Physics and Astronomy  
Keith D. McFarland Science Building  
East Texas A&M University  
PO Box 3011  
Commerce, TX 75429-3011

**Office Phone:** 903-886-5488 (department office)

**University Email Address:** Lee.Powell@etamu.edu

**Faculty Web Page Address:** None

<b>EDUCATION</b>
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Doctor of Philosophy, Physics  
Texas Tech University, 2008

Master of Science, Physics  
Stephen F. Austin State University, 1998

Bachelor of Science, Physics  
Stephen F. Austin State University, 1995

<b>TEACHING EXPERIENCE</b>
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June 2026 – present, Adjunct Professor of Physics, East Texas A&M University,  
Commerce, TX

August 2025 – present, Professor of Physics, Collin College Technical Campus, Allen,  
TX

January 2026 – May 2026, Adjunct Physics Professor, Texas A&M University -  
Texarkana, Texarkana, TX

May 2023 – August 2025, Dean of Academic Affairs and Workforce Programs, Collin  
College Frisco Campus, Frisco, TX

March 2021 – May 2023, Associate Dean of Academic Affairs, Collin College  
Farmersville Campus, Farmersville, TX

July 2016 – March 2021, Associate Dean of Academic Affairs, Collin College McKinney  
Campus, McKinney, TX

August 2012 – July 2016, Assistant Professor of Physics and Astronomy and  
Planetarium Director, University of Nebraska Kearney, Kearney, NE

August 2008 – June 2012, Assistant Professor of Physics and Astronomy, Texas  
Lutheran University, Seguin, TX

June 2003 – June 2008, Graduate Part-time Instructor and graduate student, Texas  
Tech University, Lubbock, TX

August 1998 – June 2003, Professor of Physics, Louisiana School for Math, Science,  
and the Arts, Natchitoches, LA

June 2000 – June 2003, Science Coordinator, Louisiana School for Math, Science, and  
the Arts, Natchitoches, LA

August 1998 – June 2003, Adjunct Physics Instructor, Northwestern State University,  
Natchitoches, LA

## PUBLICATIONS

**Powell, W., Smith, S.,** De Lee, N., & Wilhelm, R. (2015). "Observations and Analysis of Three Field RR Lyrae Stars Selected Using Single-Epoch SDSS Data", *Journal of the American Association of Variable Star Observers (JAAVSO)*

STATUS: **Published** (Aug 28<sup>th</sup>, 2015).

NATURE OF JOURNAL: This is a specialized peer-reviewed journal.

<https://www.aavso.org/apps/jaavso/article/3113/>

**Powell, W., Muehlbrad, T.,** Wilhelm, R., **Ginn, D., & Jastram, A.** (2009). "Testing a New Method of Detecting RR Lyrae Variable Stars", *New Horizons In Astronomy: Frank N. Bash Symposium, 2009*, edited by Stanford, L. et al., 235-238. ASP Conference Series.

<http://aspbooks.org/custom/publications/paper/432-0235.html>

STATUS: **Published** in book

NATURE OF JOURNAL: Conference proceeding. Application process to present at conference, plus editorial review of papers submitted to proceedings.

**Powell, W.,** Wilhelm, R., & Carrell, K. (2007). "An Investigation of the Canis Major Over-Density", *New Horizons In Astronomy: Frank N. Bash Symposium, 2007*, edited by Frebel, A. et al., 251-254. ASP Conference Series. [http://www.aspbooks.org/a/volumes/table\\_of\\_contents/?book\\_id=430](http://www.aspbooks.org/a/volumes/table_of_contents/?book_id=430)

STATUS: **Published** in book

NATURE OF JOURNAL: Conference proceeding. Application process to present at conference, plus editorial review of papers submitted to proceedings.

Wilhelm, R., **Powell W.**, Beers, T., Sesar, B., Alende Preieto, C., Carrell, K., Lee, Y., Yanny, B., Rockosi, C., & De Lee, N. (2007). "Identification of RR Lyrae Variables in SDSS from Single-Epoch Photometric and Spectroscopic Observations", *Astronomical Journal* (submitted, revising (STILL!!!))

<http://arxiv.org/abs/0712.0776>

STATUS: On-going revision, perennial "resubmitting this year" (my PhD advisor is SLOW)

5 citations through arXiv.

NATURE OF JOURNAL: One of the two main US astronomy research journals.

Lauchner, A., **Powell, W.**, & Wilhelm, R. (2006). "Discovery of a Tidal Stream Extending from NGC 5053", *Astrophysical Journal Letters* 651, L33-L36.

<http://dx.doi.org/10.1086/509254>

32 citations through 2026

**STATUS: Published**

**NATURE OF JOURNAL:** High impact factor journal for quick publication of important results.

## RESEARCH GRANTS AND AWARDS

### Successful external grant applications as PI or co-PI:

**Title:** "Star Spots and the O'Connell Effect in Low Mass Stars"

**Source:** NASA-EPSCoR Missouri Research Infrastructure Development Competition

**Amount:** **\$29,601 (\$7,600 to me at UNK for travel with students to observe)**

**Collaborators:** Dr. Vayu Gokhale, Truman State University (I was his co-PI)

**Submitted:** July 15<sup>th</sup>, 2015

**Title:** "Combined Photometry and Spectroscopy Observations of Poorly Studied Binary Star Systems at McDonald Observatory"

**Source:** UNK Research Services Council (RSC)

**Amount:** **\$5,378**

**Collaborators:** None (supported travel for two students and me to observatory in July 2015)

**Submitted:** January 30, 2015

**Title:** Observations and Analysis of RR Lyrae Stars by Undergraduate Students

**Source:** Nebraska EPSCoR Undergraduate Research Experience at Small Colleges and Universities

**Amount:** **\$5,000**

**Collaborators:** None

**Submitted:** March 25, 2013

March, 2010: American Astronomical Society Small Research Grant to fund travel to McDonald Observatory for myself and two students. Requested \$5,323.50. **Received: \$3,548.67**

April, 2009: American Astronomical Society Small Research Grant to fund travel to McDonald Observatory for myself and two students. Requested \$6,872. **Received: \$3,000**

May 2005: Sigma Xi Grant-in-aid of research, **\$2,300** to fund observatory travel