

JOSEPH PETER (“Joe”) BASSI, PhD  
Lt. Colonel, US Air Force, Retired  
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**EDUCATION:**

PhD (History)—University of California, Santa Barbara  
MA (History)—George Washington University, Washington, DC  
MS (Astrophysics)—University of Colorado, Boulder  
MS (Meteorology)—Pennsylvania State University, State College, PA  
BS (Physics-Phi Beta Kappa)—Manhattan College, New York, NY

**CURRENT POSITIONS:**

Adjunct Lecturer, National Security Studies Institute, University of Texas, El Paso (Aug 2015-Present)

---Teaching on-line, graduate level courses relating to US national security including “Introduction to US National Security”, “Europe Strategic Survey,” and “The Future of Warfare.”

Research Associate, Center for the History of Physics (CHP), American Institute of Physics, College Park, MD (Apr 2016-Present)

---Performing interviews with noted space physicists in support of CHP’s heliophysics oral history effort.

**RECENT ACADEMIC POSITIONS:**

Visiting Scholar, Dept of the History and Philosophy of Science, Cambridge University, UK (October-November 2018)

Assistant Professor of Arts and Sciences, Department of Social Sciences and Economics, College of Arts and Sciences, Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University/Worldwide Campus, (August 2010-May 2017, Retired)

---Taught a variety of college-level undergraduate courses in the humanities and the sciences both on-ground and on-line, including “History of Science,” “Aerospace Technology and Society,” “Introductory Astronomy,” and “Introductory Meteorology “  
---Created, with an ERAU instructional designer, a History of Science on-line course  
---Proficient in using Blackboard, Canvas, and Moodle learning systems

Lecturer in Physics, UC Santa Barbara, Summer 2009, “Introductory Physics (6A)”

PhD (History) Candidate at UC Santa Barbara (Sep 2004-June 2009)

--Major Fields: History of 20th Century US Science, Cold War Studies, National Security Studies

--Dissertation Topic: Development of Boulder, Colorado as a site for US Space and Atmospheric Science in the early Cold War Era

--Teaching Associate (as graduate student): Summer '07 and '08, created and taught "Weather and Climate in History," an upper division, summer undergrad elective)

**FELLOWSHIPS:**

"Public Policy and Nuclear Threats" NSF/IGERT 4-year Graduate Research Fellow at the Institute on Global Conflict and Cooperation at UC San Diego (Jul 2004-Jul 2008)

Guggenheim Pre-Doctoral Fellow in Space History, National Air and Space Museum, Smithsonian Institution, Washington, DC (Sep 2006-Feb 2007)

NASA Space Grant Research Fellow, Space Policy Institute, The George Washington University, Washington, DC (Sep 2001-May 2002)

**PREVIOUS FULL-TIME TEACHING POSITIONS:**

(Note: Both while serving as a career US Air Force officer)

Professor of Strategic Studies, Joint Military Intelligence College (JMIC), Washington, DC (1992-94; 1996-2000)

-Created and taught successful grad and undergrad level national security related courses, including military history, space operations, international affairs, intelligence history, and national security policy

-Supervised over 20 masters degree theses

Instructor/Assistant Professor of Physics, USAF Academy, Colorado (1984-1987)

-Taught introductory physics courses, including EM and Modern Physics

-Created and taught an Introductory Astronomy/Space Sciences course

**PREVIOUS NON-ACADEMIC POSITIONS:**

Senior Project Engineer, The Aerospace Corporation, assigned to Vandenberg Air Force Base (AFB), Lompoc, CA, November 2009-Jul 2010

Served on the advisory and analytical staff of Joint Forces Component Command-Space/US Strategic Command

---Focus of work was on Space Situational Awareness issues.

**(Note: All the following positions were while serving as an active duty US Air Force officer from August 1974 until retirement in July 2000 with the rank of Lieutenant Colonel)**

Director, Joint (USAF/USN) Typhoon Warning Center, Guam (1995-1996)

- Successfully managed key US environmental warning center composed of 30 military and civilian personnel and having 53 million square mile area of responsibility.
- Supervised coordination of the US Pacific Command weather satellite network
- Generated requirements for US weather satellite remote sensing capabilities, and a key member of the Defense Meteorological Satellite Program's (DMSP) Users group

Program Element Manager and Chief Intelligence Branch, AF Directorate of Modeling, Simulation, and Analysis (AF/XOM, 1994-1995)

- Successfully ran \$40M (across the FYDIP) USAF Modernization studies program
  - Rescued program after Congress "zeroed" it out
  - Led effort that reclaimed \$1M for program in OSD cuts
- Directly impacted over \$500B of future AF acquisitions
- Directorate POC for Intelligence and IW issues.

Director, Acquisition Meteorology Office, AF Space and Missile Center (1988-1992)

- Supervised the staff meteorology office, composed of 4-8 advanced degree specialists that provided direct support to \$7B worth of space programs, including Titan IV, Directed Energy Weapons, Space Test Program, and the Defense Support Program.
- Cited in a NASA Group Achievement Award that recognized outstanding support to the Shuttle and other US launch vehicles
- Taught popular course to "customers," both on and off site, about the effect of the space environment on their systems

Operations Officer, Joint (US/Australian) Learmonth Solar Observatory, Western Australia (1979-1981)

- Managed day-to-day operations of this complex astronomical facility

### **RECENT PUBLICATIONS:**

Book: **A Scientific Peak: How Boulder became a World Center for Space and Atmospheric Science**, American Meteorological Society Press, 2015, pp. 296. Selected for an Atmospheric Science Librarians International (ASLI) 2015 CHOICE Award as Honorable Mention in History Category.

Article: "**How did a Scientific Siberia turn into AstroBoulder**"? *Physics Today*, February 2017, 36.

Book Review: "**Marketing the Moon**," *ISIS*, Spring, 2016

### **SELECTED RECENT SCHOLARLY PRESENTATIONS:**

“Successfully Navigating Interdisciplinary Borders: Astronomer Walter Roberts, The Sun-Weather Connection, and the National Center for Atmospheric Research,” (Invited) National Air and Space Museum, Washington, DC, April 18, 2019.

“Scientific Intelligence in WWII: Failures and Successes,” (Invited) National Intelligence University, Washington, DC, April 17, 2019.

“Successfully Navigating Interdisciplinary Borders: Astronomer Walter Roberts, The Sun-Weather Connection, and the National Center for Atmospheric Research,” (Invited) Baylor University, March 8, 2018.

“NAS, NSF, NCAR: How Meteorology became Big Science,” 15<sup>th</sup> Annual History Symposium, American Meteorological Society, Seattle, Washington, January 22, 2017.

“Post WWII Sun-Earth Science in Boulder, Colorado,” National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Space Weather Conference, (Invited Keynote Address). Boulder, Colorado, April 28, 2016,

“Astronomy, Meteorology, or ?: Disciplinary Questions of Authority in “Sun-Weather Connection” Research,” 12<sup>th</sup> Biennial Notre Dame History of Astronomy Workshop, Notre Dame University, June 22, 2015

“Successfully Navigating Interdisciplinary Borders: Astronomer Walter Roberts, The Sun-Weather Connection, and the National Center for Atmospheric Research,” 2014 American Meteorological Society, History Session, Atlanta, Georgia, February 4, 2014

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEMBERSHIP:**

Flying Leatherneck Historical Foundation, San Diego, CA (This group oversees the activities of the Flying Leatherneck Aviation Museum at Miramar Marine Corps Air Station).

**PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS:**

History of Science Society, American Institute of Aeronautics/Astronautics, American Geophysical Union, American Meteorological Society