

Angela V. Olinto

Homer J. Livingston Professor, Department of Astronomy and Astrophysics; Kavli Institute for Cosmological Physics, Enrico Fermi Institute; and the College; Chair of the Department of Astronomy and Astrophysics at The University of Chicago.

Olinto received her B.S. in Physics from the Pontificia Universidade Católica (PUC) of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil in 1981, and her Ph.D. in Physics from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) in 1987. She was a postdoctoral fellow at the Fermi National Accelerator Laboratory (Fermilab) in Illinois and subsequently became a faculty member in the Department of Astronomy and Astrophysics at the University of Chicago.

Now the Homer J. Livingston Professor in that department, in the Enrico Fermi Institute, and in the Kavli Institute for Cosmological Physics, Angela is the U.S. PI of the JEM-EUSO space mission and a member of the international collaboration of the Pierre Auger Observatory, both designed to discover the origin of the highest energy cosmic rays. She made significant contributions to the study of the structure of neutron stars, inflationary theory, cosmic magnetic fields, the nature of the dark matter, and the origin of the highest energy cosmic particles: cosmic rays, gamma-rays, and neutrinos.

Angela served as Chair of the Department of Astronomy and Astrophysics from 2003 to 2006 and began a second term as Chair in October 2012 and is now in her third term. She is a fellow of the American Physical Society and was Chair of their Division of Astrophysics in 2013-14. She is a fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, was a trustee of the Aspen Center for Physics, and has served on many advisory committees for the National Academy of Sciences, Department of Energy, National Science Foundation, and the National Aeronautics and Space Administration. She received the Chaire d'Excellence Award of the French Agence Nationale de Recherche in 2006, the Llewellyn John and Harriet Manchester Quantrell Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching in 2011, and the Faculty Award for Excellence in Graduate Teaching in 2015 at the University of Chicago.