Michael Downer

http://www.ph.utexas.edu/dept/research/downer/

Personal

Born July 19, 1954, Rockville Centre, New York

Married Jane Castledine, August 22, 1993

Citizenship U.S.A.

Education

Postdoc AT&T Bell Labs, Holmdel, NJ, 1983 – 1985, *C. V. Shank, supervisor* Ph.D. Harvard University, 1983, Applied Physics, *N. Bloembergen, supervisor* M.A. Oxford University, Brasenose College, 1978 Physics & Philosophy

B.A. University of Rochester, 1976 Physics

Career Positions

University Distinguished Teaching Professor	U. Texas at Austin	2011-present
College of Natural Sciences Distinguished Professor	U. Texas at Austin	2006-present
Jack S. Josey Professor	U. Texas at Austin	1998-2000
Professor of Physics	U. Texas at Austin	1997 - present
Associate Professor of Physics	U. Texas at Austin	1991 - 97
Assistant Professor of Physics	U. Texas at Austin	1985 - 91

Teaching Awards

Natural Sciences Council Faculty Service Award, UT-Austin	2013
Regents' Outstanding Teaching Award, U. Texas System	2011
Elected to Academy of Distinguished Teachers, UT-Austin	2011
Natural Sciences Council Outstanding Teaching Award, UT-Austin	2009
Dad's Association Centennial Teaching Fellowship, UT-Austin	2009
President's Associates Teaching Excellence Award, UT-Austin	2002
Teaching Excellence Award, College of Natural Sciences, UT-Austin	2001
Outstanding Graduate Teaching Award, UT-Austin	2000

Other Honors/Awards

¹ Robert S. Hyer Award of Texas Section, American Physical Society	2011	
² Fellow, Optical Society of America	2003	
³ Fellow, American Physical Society	1999	
NSF Presidential Young Investigator Award	1988-1993	\$312,500
ONR Young Investigator Award	1988-1991	\$150,000
IBM Faculty Development Award	1987-1989	\$ 60,000
Trull Centennial Professorship, UT-Austin	1985-86	
General George C. Marshall Scholar, Oxford University	1976-78	
165 invited talks at other institutions, professional meetings, etc	1983-present	

¹ as advisor of student awardee Ming Lei, for the most outstanding graduate student research presented at a Texas Section APS meeting in the past 2 years (http://www.aps.org/units/tsaps/awards/hyer/index.cfm)

Recent Professional Activities

General Chair, Advanced Accelerator Concepts (AAC) Workshop	2011-2012
Member, APS Division of Laser Science Executive Committee	2008-2011
*General Chair, Quantum Electronics & Laser Science (QELS '05)	2005 (world's largest laser science conference)
*Program Chair, Quantum Electronics & Laser Science (QELS '03)	2003
Topical Editor, Journal of the Optical Society of America B	2000- 2003

Patents

- M. C. Downer and P. T. Wilson,* "System and Method for Frequency Domain Interferometric Second Harmonic Spectroscopy," U.S. Patent 6,411,388 (granted 6-25-02).
- M. C. Downer, J. I. Dadap,* J. K. Lowell, "Characterization of an external silicon interface using optical second harmonic generation," **U.S. Patent No. 5,557,409** (granted 9-17-96).



²for "pioneering contributions to nonlinear and ultrafast laser spectroscopy of solid surfaces and plasmas"

³ for ["]fundamental contributions to nonlinear and ultrafast laser spectroscopy of solids and surfaces near the melting threshold and of gases and underdense plasmas near the thresholds of ionization and wakefield generation"

^{*} graduate student co-inventor