

**Jorge A. Lopez** is a Schumaker Professor of Physics at the University of Texas at El Paso. His research involves theoretical studies of nuclear reactions at intermediate energies, as well as properties of neutron star crusts, among other topics. He also studies the properties of materials using X-ray photoelectron spectroscopy and is passionate about physics education at all levels. He is a Fellow of the American Physical Society, has received major awards such as the Presidential Award PAESMEM, the NATURE Lifetime Achievement Award for Mentoring, and several more. He has been active in the APS as Chair of the Committee of Minorities and is a founding member of the National Society of Hispanic Physicists. Lopez and his students have published 136 peer-reviewed papers, and he has written books on nuclear physics and spectroscopy. He has mentored one Ph.D., 35 M.S., and 46 B.S. students. He received his Ph.D. in Physics from Texas A&M University, and was a postdoctoral fellow at The Niels Bohr Institute in Copenhagen and the Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory, prior to joining the faculty of his alma mater in 1990. At UTEP, he has been Assistant, Associate, and Professor, as well as Assistant Dean of the College of Science (1999-2001), and Chair of the Department of Physics (2001-2009); currently he is the President-Elect of UTEP's Academy of Distinguished Teachers.