

**Professor Bryan E. Penprase**

*Vice President for Sponsored Research and External Academic Relations, Soka University of America, Aliso Viejo, CA, USA.*

*Former Visiting Associate, California Institute of Technology, and Professor of Astronomy, Pomona College*



**Biosketch:**

Dr. Bryan Penprase is the Vice President for Sponsored Research and External Academic Relations at Soka University of America, where he develops strategic partnerships and works on collaborations with universities and colleges to advance undergraduate education and research at Soka University. While serving for three years as Dean of Faculty, he managed the undergraduate program, hiring, promotion and faculty development programs, and help lead the development of the new SUA Life Sciences concentration. At Soka University of America he has developed a new remotely operable observatory – for use in photometric observations of transient sources such as supernovae, novae and optical counterparts of GRB and other events, and sharing the beautiful LA-area skies with students from around the world. Bryan previously was Professor of Science at Yale-NUS College, and for 20 years was a professor at Pomona College, most recently as the Frank P. Brackett Professor of Astronomy at Pomona College. Bryan received both a BS in Physics and an MS in Applied Physics from Stanford University in 1985, and a PhD from the University of Chicago in Astronomy and Astrophysics in 1992.

Bryan's astronomy research includes nearly all aspects of observational astrophysics, from photometric observations of nearby asteroids to spectroscopic studies of element formation in the Early Universe, using telescopes such as the Hubble Space Telescope and the Keck Telescope in Hawaii. He is the author of "The Power of Stars – How Celestial Observations Have Shaped Civilization," published by Springer, Inc., and has authored or co-authored over 50 peer-reviewed articles, in the *Astrophysical Journal*, *Astronomical Journal*, and in *Nature* and *Science*. He has served on numerous NSF and NASA review panels, including the Hubble Space Telescope Time Allocation Committee and the NASA/Keck Time Allocation Committee, and has participated in the external review of the Five College Astronomy Program. His most recent research program is a collaboration with Caltech to develop the Zwicky Transient Facility (ZTF) and a Global Relay of Observatories known as GROWTH for studying gamma ray bursts, new supernovae, and the electromagnetic counterparts of gravitational wave sources.