



School of Computer Science & Applied Mathematics

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Professor David Block was elected a Fellow of the Royal Astronomical Society of London at age of 19.

His first research paper, on relativistic astrophysics, was published in London, by the Royal Astronomical Society, at age 20.

Professor Block has been a visiting research scientist at the Australian National University (ANU), the European Southern Observatory in Germany, the California Institute of Technology, and Harvard University, amongst others.

David Block serves as an Emeritus Professor in the School of Computer Science and Applied Mathematics at this University, and has been on staff for 35 years.

Professor Block is the only scientist on the continent of Africa whose research work has twice been featured on the cover of the world's most prestigious scientific journal "NATURE".

Awards bestowed upon Professor Block include the Vice-Chancellor's Research Award at the University of the Witwatersrand, and the National Science & Technology Forum / BHP Billiton prize recognizing him as one of South Africa's greatest communicators in science.

Professor Block accompanied the legendary cosmologist Stephen Hawking, to meet former President Nelson Mandela in Johannesburg, South Africa.

Professor Block is the author/co-author of several books.

His first book STARWATCH was translated into German & Swedish. All print runs in English, German & Swedish were sold out.

His most recent book – entitled GOD AND GALILEO – co-authored by Ken Freeman (Australia), was published in Chicago. The book upon which this presentation is based, was endorsed by the illustrious space telescope pioneer Giovanni Fazio at the Smithsonian Center for Astrophysics at Harvard.

David Block shares his testimony globally, of a most profound and personal encounter with Jesus of Nazareth, in 1976. He grew up in an orthodox Jewish home.

“David Block is one of South Africa’s greatest jewels, an ambassador for astronomy” pens the former President of the American Astronomical Society, Debra Elmegreen.

Professor Block is married to Elizabeth, who is also a Jewish believer in Jesus. Elizabeth lectures in Geography at the University of Johannesburg.

They have three sons: Aaron (28) lives in Notting Hill, London with his wife Jenna. Twin boys, Nathanael & Tevye Block, are aged 21 and were named Nkwenkewzi and Khethile by Nelson Mandela.