

# Armando Caussade, GCSc, BS

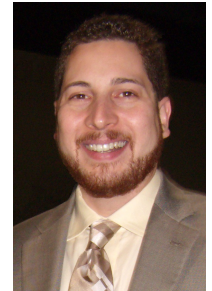
**Computer systems administrator and Linux specialist**  
**Astronomer specializing in education and public outreach**

## Short Bio

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### Summary

A computer systems administrator for 15+ years, I polished myself as a technology director at federally qualified health centers working with electronic health record (EHR) systems, which ran on Microsoft and Unix servers over TCP/IP networks. My interest in free and open-source computing led me in 2015 to the GNU/Linux platform, while my forays into professional publishing opened the door to advanced work in digital image processing.

My career includes 30+ years as an astronomy educator, with teaching experience at every level including college. *Ana G. Méndez University–Cupey*, where in 2014 I spearheaded an 8-course astronomy extension program, has since been my home institution. My involvement with public science initiatives is routinely reported by the media, and I am regularly requested as a speaker and star party facilitator with live audiences reaching 5,000 per year.

After a competitive process I was accepted into the 2014–2015 Antarctic season of PolarTREC, a professional development program funded by the US National Science Foundation (NSF). As a result, in 2015 I traveled to the Amundsen–Scott South Pole Station where I successfully conducted 10 days of work at the *IceCube Neutrino Observatory*. I am likewise familiar with the Arctic, having visited and trained there twice under extreme winter conditions.

My leadership roles include a long tenure as an officer at the *Puerto Rico Astronomy Society*, a NASA-affiliated group that I joined at its founding in 1985 and chaired for six years, becoming president emeritus in 2017. In 2018 I established and became president of the *Puerto Rico Linux Users Group*, the first of its kind to achieve incorporation status in the island.

### Career milestones

- Affiliate representative at *NASA Puerto Rico Space Grant Consortium* (2017–2019), and former member of the *Solar System Ambassadors Program* from NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory (2004–2006).
- Recipient of the *Antarctica Service Medal of the United States of America* (2015) from the National Science Foundation (NSF), a federal agency of the United States that supports research and education.

### Higher education

Graduate Certificate of Science (GCSc) in Astronomy — Swinburne University of Technology (Australia).  
Bachelor of Science (BS) in Computer Science — Inter American University of Puerto Rico.