

## Dr. Laurie Fathe

Dr. Laurie Fathe is Provost and Professor of Physics at Heritage University in Toppenish, Washington. Heritage is a small private institution that provides opportunity to a student body that is primarily first generation and low income. Dr. Fathe is a laser physicist who now focuses on science education, science policy, professional development for faculty and administrators, and institutional reform. She is the author of numerous educational and scientific publications, and government and private foundation grants.

She previously served as Dean of Arts and Sciences at Owens Community College, as Associate Provost at George Mason University, and on the Physics faculty at Occidental College for a decade. In the late 1990s, she directed the Los Angeles Collaborative for Teacher Education, a National Science Foundation funded, 10-institution, \$5.5 million project in STEM preparation for teachers. She is a Fellow of the American Physical Society, and was its Congressional Science Fellow for 1993, serving as science advisor for Congresswoman Anna Eshoo of Silicon Valley. She has served on two National Academy of Science boards and as Senior Associate for the SENCER science education project.

She has a lifelong passion for science and the environment, fostered by a mother who was a middle school science teacher and an early environmental protector. For six years, she served as a Senior Associate for SENCER, (Science Education for New Civic Engagement and Responsibility) a decade-plus long project funded by the National Science Foundation to help faculty connect science, engineering, and mathematics courses to real world issues. She is a Fellow of the American Physical Society, and a past chair of its Forum on Physics and Society, where her work centered on helping scientists become involved in the legislative process. Active in environmental policy, she served 3 terms on the board of directors of the Los Angeles Chapter of the Sierra Club, working with local and state legislators to draft and implement environmentally responsible and sustainable laws and regulations.

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