

Stewart Prager

Stewart Prager is director of the Princeton Plasma Physics Laboratory, a Department of Energy national laboratory, and professor of astrophysical sciences at Princeton University. He received his Ph.D. degree in plasma physics from Columbia University in 1975. Following two years performing fusion energy research at General Atomics in San Diego he joined the University of Wisconsin – Madison as an assistant professor of physics. Prager remained at the University of Wisconsin, as Dexter Professor of Physics, until 2009 when he assumed his position at Princeton.

Prager's research has focused on basic plasma physics, particularly applications to fusion energy and, more recently, applications to astrophysics. While at Wisconsin, Prager was director of the Madison Symmetric Torus (MST) experimental facility. He also served as founding director of the Center for Magnetic Self-Organization in Laboratory and Astrophysical Plasmas, established through the National Science Foundation program of "physics frontier centers." He has served as Chair of the Fusion Energy Sciences Advisory Committee for DOE, Chair of the Division of Plasma Physics of the American Physical Society, President of the University Fusion Association, and a member of the fusion review panel of the President's Council of Advisors in Science and Technology. Prager is a co-recipient of the American Physical Society Dawson Award for Excellence in Plasma Physics and is a fellow of the American Physical Society.