

Candidate for Lecturer/Instructor in Physics

# David Thompson, PhD

Today (March 23)

## Research Seminar

2:15 – 3:05

Ross **0235**

## Meet with Students Over Pizza

3:15 – 3:45

Ross **0235**

## Science Beyond Academia

### David R. Thompson, PhD

Consistent with the self-referencing theme, these words are more a discussion description than an abstract. As a visiting Physics Instructor candidate, I will describe how my career guided me from rich technical applications of science and modeling, to discover the power of science modeling concepts and metaphors in a broader context of problem resolution. I will tell stories about my technical-organizational consulting, and why I believe deep systems insights and modeling skills are sorely needed among those in organizational roles. Systems-understanding, married with listening and communication skills, can bring a coherent seed crystal to a sea of confusion. Science puts us in touch with our humility in the wonder, complexity, and vast mystery of even simple systems. My fire for teaching physics is fueled by my belief, from my humbling experiences, that science needs to be taught with an eye well beyond academic and technical application, beyond academic culture. I believe science education, even at the graduate level, needs to expand its intentional focus toward our need for deep systems literacy in our modern human contexts.