

Dr. Leslie Wickman was born and raised in the Pacific Northwest. She graduated magna cum laude with a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science from Willamette University in Salem, Oregon. She later earned a Master's degree in Aero/Astro Engineering, as well as a doctoral degree in Human Factors and Biomechanics, from Stanford University.

For over a decade she worked as an engineer for Lockheed Martin Missiles & Space in Sunnyvale, CA. While there, she had the opportunity to work on NASA's Hubble Space Telescope and International Space Station Programs, and received commendations from both NASA and contractors for her contributions. During this time, she was designated as Lockheed's Corporate Astronaut.

Following Lockheed Martin, she moved to WET Labs in Universal City, CA, where she was instrumental in the development and programming of the Fountains of Bellagio in Las Vegas, NV. After that she spent several years working as a research scientist with The RAND Corporation in Santa Monica, CA, on technical and political aspects of various national defense issues.

She currently acts as Program Director of Engineering, as well as Director of the Center for Research in Science (CRIS), at Azusa Pacific University in Azusa, CA. In addition, she serves as an engineering specialist on various aerospace projects. Currently, her primary research project involves investigating the effects of climate change on national security issues.

Leslie played women's professional football with the California Quake (Women's World Bowl Champions in 2002), as well as pro-am beach volleyball with the FIVB and CBVA. She has traveled with Athletes in Action Volleyball to Bolivia, Brazil, and South Africa.

Dr. Wickman is also a Christian minister.