The life, times and legacy of DU’s Prof. Herbert Alonso Howe (1858–1926)

September 30, 4-5pm, Olin Hall 105

Abstract: In 1880, Dr. Howe was one of the six original faculty members at the University of Denver. His prior astronomy studies were completed at Cincinnati Observatory, which prepared him for the opportunity to teach math, astronomy and surveying at DU, and eventually to build and utilize DU’s Chamberlin Observatory (1894) for the study of the orbits of comets and of nebulae.

We will review his life and times, and how(e) his efforts influenced the future of mathematics and astronomy at DU, along with the dramatic changes in both fields since then.

About the speaker: Robert Stencel received his Ph.D. from University of Michigan in 1977. He is the William Herschel Womble Professor of Astronomy at the DU Department of Physics & Astronomy, director of the DU Observatories (Chamberlin and Mt. Evans), and Colorado coordinator for the International Dark-sky Association. Prior to joining University of Denver in 1993, Dr. Stencel worked at NASA Houston and Greenbelt sites and at NASA Headquarters in Washington DC.

His research interests include stellar evolution and infrared instrumentation.