Research Experience

Rachel N. Slaybaugh

August 6, 2020

University of California, Berkeley

Assistant Professor of Nuclear Engineering

Jan. 2014 – Present Berkeley, CA

- Researching numerical methods for neutral particle transport with an emphasis on supercomputing and advanced architectures as well as data science
- Specialization in deterministic, Monte Carlo, and hybrid methods
- Applications in reactor design, shielding, and nuclear security and nonproliferation
- Design Emphasis in Computational Science and Engineering Affiliated Faculty member
- Applied Science & Technology Faculty member

Advanced Research Projects Agency - Energy

Jan. 2017 – Dec. 2020

Special Gov Employee / Program Director / Senior Technical Advisor

Washington, DC

- Program creation and management
 Special Government Employee Jan. 2017 Oct. 2017 and Special Advisor Aug. 2020 Dec. 2020
- Director for MEITNER, the Nuclear OPEN+ cohort, LISE, and GEMINA Programs, supporting research for enabling technologies for advanced nuclear fission reactors
- Co-Director for TERRA and ROOTS Programs, supporting research for sensing and data analytics for above- and below-ground plant outcomes
- Director for FOCUS Program, supporting research for solar technologies that combine photovoltaic and concentrated solar power technologies

Bettis Laboratory

Mar. 2012 – Aug. 2014

Senior Engineer in the Shield Design and Development group

West Mifflin, PA

- Implemented the Forward-Weighted Consistent Adjoint Driven Importance Sampling (FW-CADIS) method for variance reduction in Monte Carlo; accredited method for use in shield design
- Developed new Resonance Factor variance reduction method for streaming through materials with space and energy self-shielding
- Built two software tools in support of using FW-CADIS for shield design
- Scientific Software Development Committee: leader in developing internal website for sharing software carpentry tools and resources

University of Wisconsin-Madison

Research Assistant / Rickover Fellow

Sept. 2006 – Nov. 2011 Madison, WI

- Researched "Acceleration Methods for Massively Parallel Deterministic Transport": added parallelization in the energy domain, an advanced eigenvalue solver, and a new multigrid in energy preconditioner to Denovo, developed at Oak Ridge National Lab
- Developed two Monte Carlo source sampling methods for arbitrarily shaped plasma sources; the sources are generated directly from plasma physics data

Forschungszentrum Karlsruhe (KIT)

Visiting Researcher

May 2008 – Dec. 2008 Karlsruhe, Germany

- Learned about the Rigorous 2 Step method for Monte Carlo geometry conversion while working in the Reactor Safety group
- Helped group incorporate the Direct Accelerated Geometry Monte Carlo (DAGMC) library into MCNP workflow

Penn State Breazeale Reactor

 $Reactor\ Operator$

Aug. 2003 – Apr. 2006 University Park, PA

- NRC licensed Reactor Operator for TRIGA Mark III reactor
- Analyzed core burn-up anomaly; calibrated gamma irradiation facilities