

# Faith Jensen

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## Education

**University of Montana**, BA in Physics, Concentration in Astronomy

Aug 2020 – May 2024

## Relevant Coursework

- Stellar Astronomy & Astrophysics I
- Stellar Astronomy & Astrophysics II
- Observational Astronomy
- Planetary Science
- Galactic Astrophysics
- Computational Physics (Python)
- Quantum Mechanics I
- Electricity & Magnetism I
- Communicating Physics

## Research Experience

**Astronomy Researcher**, Department of Physics & Astronomy, University of Montana

Aug 2023 – Present

- Conduct research using HARPS-N Solar Data to quantify the impact of observing cadence on the recovery of low-mass planet parameters
- Use PyORBIT to perform injection and recovery simulations with quasi-periodic Gaussian process models, quantifying how stellar activity biases low-mass planet parameter estimates
- Presented preliminary results to faculty and peers in a departmental seminar; manuscript in preparation

## Publications

**Testing Strategies to Fit Exoplanet and Stellar Activity Signals with Solar Radial Velocities**

In Prep

*Faith Jensen*, Chantanelle Nava

## Teaching & Outreach

**Teaching Assistant**, Department of Physics & Astronomy, University of Montana

Aug 2023 - May 2024

- Attended weekly meetings with the course lecturer to coordinate lab instruction
- Hosted office hours and assisted students during lab sessions to answer questions and support learning
- Graded lab assignments and provided constructive feedback
- Facilitated all pre-lab tutorials to prepare students for class
- Courses Taught: Planetary Astronomy Lab (ASTR 134N), Stars, Galaxies, and the Universe Lab (ASTR 135N)

**Planetarium Presenter**, Stargazing Room, University of Montana

May 2022 - Aug 2024

- Delivered live astronomy shows and demonstrations to audiences, ranging from K-12 to general public
- Developed and adapted content to explain complex astronomical concepts clearly and engagingly
- Assisted in maintaining and operating planetarium equipment and software
- Software Used: Digistar

**Telescope Operator & Presenter**, Blue Mountain Observatory

May 2022 - June 2023

- Operated the telescope and observational equipment for public outreach
- Delivered live presentations and guided observing sessions for visitors, explaining astronomical concepts clearly and engagingly
- Telescope Used: 16" Boller and Chivens f/18 Cassegrain

## Conferences & Workshops

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| <b>International Planetarium Society</b> , Jena & Berlin, Germany | July 2024 |
| <b>Women in Physics</b> , Bozeman, MT                             | Jan 2024  |

## Awards, Scholarships, & Media Features

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| <b>Great Western Observer</b> (Page 13), Autumn 2024 Issue  | Sept 2024   |
| <b>Germany bound: UM students and faculty to go abroad for planetarium conference</b> (NonStop LOCAL) | June 2024   |
| <b>RMPA Scholarship for Stars All 20234 IPS Conference</b>  | June 2024   |
| <b>Dean's List</b>  | Autumn 2023 |
| <b>Shallenberger/ Alumni Association Scholarship in Physics</b> , University of Montana               | 2020-2021   |

## Work Experience

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| <b>Administrative Associate</b> , Office of Clinical Experiences & Educator Licensure, University of Montana                         | Oct 2024 - Present  |
| • Manage and file confidential documents, including background checks and student records, ensuring compliance with privacy policies |                     |
| • Coordinate clinical and student teaching placements for 120+ candidates per semester   |                     |
| <b>Sales Associate</b> , Batteries Plus, Missoula, MT  | Oct 2023 - May 2024 |
| • Educated customers on the usage, storage, and maintenance of their batteries   |                     |
| • Delivered excellent customer service by assessing a customer's needs and making tailored recommendations                           |                     |
| <b>Beertender</b> , Cranky Sam Public House, Missoula, MT  | May 2021 - Oct 2023 |
| • Provided excellent customer service through personalized recommendations   |                     |
| • Maintained cleanliness of the pub and glassware  |                     |

## Affiliations

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| <b>Senator</b> , Staff Senate, University of Montana   | June 2025 - Present |
| • Elected Senator on the University of Montana Staff Senate, representing staff in shared governance with faculty, students, and administration      |                     |
| • Serve on the Data & Research Committee, conducting surveys and analyzing staff concerns to inform Senate resolutions and initiatives               |                     |
| <b>Vice President</b> , Society of Physics Students, University of Montana   | Aug 2023 - May 2024 |
| • Served as Vice President of the Society of Physics Students, coordinating monthly meetings and overseeing club activities                          |                     |
| • Organized a successful fundraiser that helped finance a group trip to the Laser Interferometer Gravitational-Wave Observatory (LIGO) in April 2024 |                     |
| • Hosted resume workshops to prepare students for internships, graduate school, and research opportunities, as well as alumni panels                 |                     |
| • Coordinated community-building events including study groups and movie nights to strengthen engagement within the physics department               |                     |
| <b>Member</b> , Women & Gender Minorities in Physics, University of Montana  | Aug 2022 - May 2024 |
| • Participated in peer-led study groups to strengthen problem-solving and collaboration skills in physics coursework                                 |                     |
| • Engaged in monthly discussions and events focused on supporting women in physics and promoting inclusivity in STEM                                 |                     |
| • Fostered community through academic and social events  |                     |