# Karen Warmbein

Technical Content Developer · Former Planetarium Coordinator 420 Pontius Ave. N., Apt. 626 · Seattle, WA · 98109 252-305-6190 · kwarmbein@gmail.com

Goal: to inspire and facilitate lifelong learning.

# **Experience**

### Advanced Instructional Systems (WebAssign) and Cengage Learning

Raleigh, N.C.

TECHNICAL CONTENT DEVELOPER II

Apr. 2012 - Apr. 2019

- Add numerical randomizations to mathematics, statistics, physics, and astronomy questions transferred from textbook and publisher-independent materials to an online assessment system.
- Participate in a QA processes to ensure work is free of errors and aligned with pedagogical standards.
- Collaborate with agile team, including steakholders, to accurately scope and deliver projects.
- Train and provide feedback to new hires on standard coding and pedagogical best practices.
- Create and maintain tools that automate daily work and create and update update internal processes documentation.
- Participate in a cross-functional team whose goal is to create innovative methods of using mathematical proofs in the application.
- Past experience in Content Support Rotations: assisting the internal Content Support Team via responding to customer-reported issues such as pedagogical errors and undesirable application behavior. Experience with Salesforce.com.
- Experience with HTML, Perl (advanced), JavaScript, Mathematica, MATLAB, LaTeX and other markup languages, statistical software and analysis, Microsoft Office (especially Word and Excel), MathType, Google Drive and documents, AutoHotkey (using and writing key-bindings), Atlassian JIRA and Confluence, and SalesForce

### **Raleigh Parks and Recreation**

Raleigh, N.C.

PART-TIME RECREATION LEADER

Jan. 2015 - Dec. 2015

- Performed natural resource management and park operation duties at two busy nature preserves Durant Nature Preserve and Horseshoe Farm Preserve.
- Maintained trails, gardens, bird feeders, nest boxes, and perform animal care duties.
- Provided customer service while answering Preserve questions, rental inquiries and correcting rule violations.
- Assisted with creation, development, and implementation of interpretive materials including signs and kiosk displays as well as the instruction of a variety of nature programs.

### University of North Carolina, Greensboro

Remote

**ISCHOOL COURSE DEVELOPER & LECTURER** 

Sep. 2010 - May 2011

- Assisted in the content development of AST 203: Conceptual Astronomy an online college course for high school students - by recording tutorials & content highlights and creating assignments & tests.
- Guided students through the online course and regularly communicated with students, facilitators, and course coordinator.
- Experience with Pearson's MasteringAstronomy and Camtasia

#### **Catawba Science Center**

Hickory, N.C.

PLANETARIUM COORDINATOR & EDUCATOR

Apr. 2010 - Jul. 2011

- Taught science classes to Pre-K through 12th grade students, scouts, and camp participants.
- Managed administrative aspects of the planetarium and collaborated with marketing to promote events.
- Created and presented seasonal programming.
- Continued relationship with members in C.V.A.C., M.U.G., S.E.P.A, & C.A.P.E.
- · Maintained equipment and software.
- Experience with Microsoft Office and the MediaGlobe II and the SkyLase systems.

#### **Abrams Planetarium**

East Lansing, MI

Jun. 2008 - May 2009

WEEKEND SHOW PRESENTER

- Prepared planetarium equipment and theater for weekend shows.
- Organized and delivered a presentation of the current night sky.
- Experience with Digester II and the analog system.

### Physics/Astronomy & ISP Departments - Michigan State University

TEACHING ASSISTANT

- Responsibilities varied with course and instructor, main duties as follows:
  - coordinated with instruction team and graded assessments
  - lead course discussions and guided laboratory activities
  - held review sessions and proctored exams
  - Experience with Excel & Angel (learning management system)

# **Volunteer Activity**

### North Carolina Science Olympiad - Regional & State Competition

Raleigh, N.C.

East Lansing, MI

Aug. 2006 - May 2009

**TEST OA & EVENT LEADER** 

Feb 2016, Feb - April 2017

- QA'd the N.C. regional and state level Astronomy tests: 'Reach for the Stars' (middle school level) and 'Astronomy' (high school level).
- Lead assigned volunteers to administer & grade the tests.

#### **Durant Nature Preserve**

Raleigh, N.C.

**BLUEBIRD BOX MONITOR** 

Seasonal, 2014, 2016, & 2017

- Weekly monitoring including recording data of the preserve's bluebird boxes, which are located along a 2.5 mile trail.
- Received Raleigh Parks, Recreation, and Cultural Resources 2015 Fred Fletcher Award for Outstanding Park Volunteer for this work.

### **Catawba Valley Astronomy Club**

Hickory, N.C.

MEMBER & VICE PRESIDENT

Apr. 2010 - Jul. 2011

- Assisted with Open House Public Nights at the Lucille Miller Observatory.
- Attended monthly meetings where I was also the representative for Catawba Science Center.

### Education

### **Michigan State University**

East Lansing, MI

B.S. IN ASTROPHYSICS & B.S. IN MATHEMATICS

Jan. 2006 - May 2009

- Astrophysics Thesis: "Simulating Galaxy Collisions with a Planetarium Projection System"
  - Modified Comins and Schroeder's GC3D code and simulated the interaction of two galaxy pairs: ESO 77-14 and NGC 2207 & IC 2163.
  - Ported the data to the Digistar II at Abrams Planetarium and created an animation used for astronomy education.

## **Honors & Awards**

2016	Nominee, WebAssign's Riz Award	Raleigh, N.C.
2015	Outstanding Park Volunteer, Raleigh Parks Division	Raleigh, N.C.
2011	Certificate of Appreciation, N.A.S.A. Night Sky Network	Hickory, N.C.
2009	<b>1st Place</b> , Digistar Users Group Demo (Category Digistar II)	Salt Lake City, UT