APC Graduate Student Survey – 2023

Dear Grads,

Thank you for taking the time to fill out this survey. The goal of the annual APC survey is to check in with all students to help ensure you are successfully progressing towards your degree and identify any hurdles that we can help you overcome. The information you provide is confidential within the APC committee and will not be shared directly with your advisor. Note that while not every student will be contacted by the APC directly about their responses, we read them all. We use your responses to help improve your individual experiences and our program as a whole. Please answer all of the starred questions. Use as much space as you need for the open ended ones. Non-starred questions are optional, but answers are encouraged to help us evaluate our program.

1. \*Name

Brock Parker

1. \*What year did you arrive at Steward?

2023

1. \*Who is/are your research advisor(s)?

Erika Hamden

1. \*Who are the members of your mentoring/thesis committee?

Erika Hamden, Jared Males, Eiichi Egami

1. \*What month/year did you last have a committee meeting? If you have a meeting scheduled, when will it be? **If you have not had a meeting yet this semester, please schedule one ASAP**

10/2023

1. \*Please indicate which of these milestones you have completed:

Written Prelim

All required coursework completed

Oral Prelim

Thesis plan submitted

1. \*How many semesters have you TA'd in your time here (please list the courses, semesters, and professors)? Did you have the opportunity to lecture or otherwise teach (in class, labs, or break-out sessions)? Are there any training/learning opportunities that you want but have not yet gotten while teaching?

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1. \*List here all publications, including conference proceedings, during the past year only (noting those submitted/accepted/published in refereed journals with an "\*").

N/A

1. \*List any fellowships, scholarships, or awards you have received this year.

N/A

1. List any duties you have within the Department or any other contributions you have made to the Department or the Observatory.

N/A

1. \*How are you being supported this year? How were you supported last summer?

So far I have been supported through the guaranteed first semester funding through Steward. I will be transitioning to Erika's skipper CCD grant starting next semester, and suspect to be supported through that next summer.

1. \*Briefly describe the status of your research work.   
   If you have not completed your oral prelim, please briefly describe the expected timeline.  
   If you have completed your prelims, please describe your status relative to your thesis plan.  
   If this is your 5th year or more, please give your estimated Ph.D. completion date.

1. \*Write a brief (~1 paragraph) evaluation of your progress in the past year and your expectations for the next year

1. Have you been able to overcome any direct COVID-related impacts to your research program? Examples include telescope closures that prevented your observations, laboratory closures that delayed your work, cancelation of important proposal calls, cancelation of conferences. Is there anything the department could do now to help get you back on track if you feel that you are not?

1. \*Please comment on your experience with meetings pertaining to your research. How often are you participating in individual and/or group research meetings? Are you meeting with collaborators other than your advisor? Are you satisfied with the number and quality of these meetings?

1. \*Please comment on your relationship with your research advisor **(comments will not be shared with your advisor**, although feedback may be conveyed by the APC). If you are having difficulties, please be specific in your comments so that we may seek remedies.

1. If you are still taking courses, or finished last spring, please provided a few sentences that describe your thoughts on the department’s graduate course offerings.  Comment on those courses that you found most helpful and also aspects of the curriculum that you feel could be improved.  
          
     
   So far, I feel the courses offered span
2. \*On average, how many days per week are you working on campus during the academic year  
   5
3. \*Which department events are you attending?

Steward/NOIR Lab Joint Colloquium, Science Coffee, FLASH Talks, GRAMPS, CGM Group Meetings, Galaxy Group, Space Drafts

1. Do you have any suggestions to improve existing events, or ideas for new types of events?

1. Please comment on the intellectual and social climate of the department. Are there aspects that you feel work well, or that you wish were improved?

1. Please comment on any notable successes/failures of the graduate program (advising, support from the Department, computer facilities, your experience joining the department, etc)

1. In order to help us better address your needs, we’d like to hear anything about your lived experience that you are willing to share. For example, are you experiencing any external stressors of which you would like to make the APC aware?

1. Please provide any other feedback here.