Meredith Durbin

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EDUCATION

Expected May 2014 Pomona College
B.A. in PHYSICS
G.P.A. 3.5/4.0 Santa Rosa Junior College
A.S. in NATURAL SCIENCES
Highest Honors

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Carnegie Observatories

Summer 2013 - Present

- Developed automated pipeline to perform data reduction and analysis in IRAF and Python on Spitzer Space Telescope images
- Produced new results important to the cosmic distance scale that are currently being prepared for publication & presentation at conferences

Pomona College Department of Physics & Astronomy

Summer 2012

- Operated 1-meter telescope at Table Mountain Observatory to obtain polarimetry data on quiescent blazars & polarized standard stars
- Analyzed data in IRAF and Python to characterize telescope polarimeter & determine polarization of blazars

TEACHING ASSISTANTSHIPS

Pomona College Department of Physics & Astronomy

Spring 2013 - Present

- Assisted introductory astronomy students with homework sets and laboratory work, including telescope operation and imaging, software use, and data analysis
- Assisted introductory physics students with laboratory work, including experimental setup, troubleshooting, and data analysis

Scripps College & W. M. Keck Joint Sciences

Summer 2013

• Tutored post-baccalaureate premedical students in introductory physics, including Newtonian mechanics, electricity & magnetism, thermodynamics, and topics in modern physics

SKILLS

PROGRAMMING Python, Java, HTML/CSS, jQuery

SOFTWARE Microsoft Office, Mathematica, Linux/UNIX, LATEX, SolidWorks, Adobe CreativeSuite (Dreamweaver, Illustrator, InDesign, Photoshop)

Science Communication & Outreach

Science & science fiction columnist, The Daily Geekette, 2014-present

Co-founder, ALPhA ("Awesome Ladies in Physics and Astronomy") student organization, 2013-present

Contributing artist & graphic designer, Pomona College Physics Festival: "A Night of Physics in the Arts", 2013