

# Nicole Brewer

RESEARCH SOFTWARE ENGINEER | GRADUATE RESEARCH ASSISTANT

Arizona State University, Tempe, AZ

🏠 nicole-brewer.com | 📧 nicole-brewer | 📺 nicole-brewer | 🐦 catch\_me\_coding

## Education

### Arizona State University

PHD COMPUTATIONAL HISTORY AND PHILOSOPHY OF SCIENCE

Tempe, AZ

Expected May 2027

### Purdue University

BS MATHEMATICS WITH COMPUTER SCIENCE

West Lafayette, IN

December 2018

## Publications

1. Brewer, N., Campbell, R., Kalyanam, R., Luk, K. I., Song, C. X., & Zhao, L. (2022). Benefits and limitations of jupyter-based scientific web applications. *2022 IEEE 18th International Conference on eScience (eScience)*. <https://doi.org/10.1109/eScience55777.2022.00094>
2. Brewer, N., Kim, H., Li, C., Anderson, H., Lanum, J., Cheoh, J., Hillery, B., & Overmyer, T. (2019). Student cluster competition 2018, team ada six of purdue university: Reproducing extreme scale multi-physics simulations of tsunamigenic 2004 sumatra megathrust earthquake on intel skylake architecture. *Parallel Computing*, 90, 102565. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.parco.2019.102565>

## Honors and Awards

- 2022 **Outstanding Mentorship Award** (\$750), ASU Graduate and Professional Student Association
- 2022 **GPSA Individual Travel Award** (\$950), ASU Graduate and Professional Student Association
- 2021 **UPSS Delegate** (\$500), Philosophy of Science Biennial Meeting
- 2020 **Young Professional of the Year Award** (\$500), Science Gateways Community Institute
- 2018 **Phil Andrews Award**, Practice and Experience in Advanced Research Computing Conference

## Grants and Fellowships

- Jan 2023 **Better Scientific Software Fellowship** (\$25,000), Exascale Computing Project (DOE/NSF), Awardee.
- Aug 2022 **School of Life Science Fellowship** (\$2,500), Arizona State University, Awardee.

## Posters and Abstracts

- June 2023 **Recommended Libraries for Cyberinfrastructure Users Developing Jupyter Notebooks** ([poster](#)) RMACC HPC Sym.
- Mar 2022 **Standalone Web Application Template** ([presenter](#)) Mini Gateways
- July 2021 **Leveraging Traits for Highly Interactive Computational Tools in Jupyter** ([abstract](#)) ([video](#)) Gateways
- June 2018 **Classification of Periodicity in Subtraction Game Sequences** ([poster](#)) PEARC

## Professional Experience

### ITaP Research Computing

RESEARCH SOFTWARE ENGINEER

Purdue University

Feb 2019 - Apr 2022

- Implemented a highly interactive, Jupyter-based, GUI wrapper for power analysis software in order to expand the audience and ease of use of a rich set of computational functions via a user-friendly interface
- Facilitated software design, the implementation of best practices, and internal tool development, and lab documentation to improve the overall sustainability of lab software
- Transform disparate data acquisition and processing scripts into modular classes to be reused for scientific workflows

### Aptiv

SOFTWARE VERIFICATION ENGINEER

West Lafayette, IN

Nov 2017 - Nov 2018

- Developed comprehensive Unit Test projects that utilized CAN bus protocol communications to verify automotive controller hardware

## Research Experience

---

### Graduate Research Assistant

COMPLEX ADAPTIVE SYSTEMS, ARIZONA STATE UNIVERSITY

Aug 2022 - Present

- Advisor: Manfred Laubichler
- Using natural language processing, machine learning, network analysis, high performance computing, and mixed social science methods to model the evolution of scientific standards through time
- Documenting and adapting code and data from prior projects for reuse

### Student Cluster Competition, Reproducibility Challenge

RESEARCH COMPUTING, PURDUE UNIVERSITY

June 2018 - Dec 2018

- Advisors: Betsy Hillery
- Built a small cluster and applied optimization techniques in a non-stop, 48-hour challenge at the SC18 conference
- Compiled a scientific application from an accepted paper from the prior year's Technical Program and interacted directly with the paper's authors to reproduce specific results and conclusions from the paper

### CSol Channels Scholar REU

CENTER FOR SCIENCE OF INFORMATION, NSF STC

Jan 2016 - June 2017

- Advisor: Mark Daniel Ward
- Utilized HPC clusters to efficiently create large data sets pertaining to combinatorial game theory
- Analyzed batching strategies of parallel computation to efficiently detect an unknown length of repeating sequences in long strings
- Developed a command line interface and file management system in Python to prevent human error and enhance the usability of codebase

## Talks and Panels

---

|          |  |                   |
|----------|--|-------------------|
| Mar 2023 | <b>Notebooks as Scholarly Objects</b> ( <a href="#">host</a> )   | US-RSE Comm. Call |
| Oct 2022 | <b>Software Engineering Topics Relevant to eScience</b> ( <a href="#">invited panelist</a> )             | eScience22        |
| Mar 2022 | <b>Scientific Web Applications with Jupyter Notebooks</b> ( <a href="#">presenter</a> )                  | US-RSE Comm. Call |
| Oct 2021 | <b>How to Recruit and Sustain a Diverse and Inclusive Workforce</b> ( <a href="#">invited panelist</a> ) | Int'l RSE Day     |

## Conference Activity

---

- Oct 2023 **Chair**, Notebook Submission Subcommittee, US-RSE Conference
- Oct 2023 **Co-Chair**, Student Program Committee, US-RSE Conference
- Nov 2022 **Committee Member**, Reproducibility Challenge, SC22

## Professional Service

---

### Council Member

INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF RSE ASSOCIATION

International

Jan 2022 - Present

- Chaired and organized council meetings
- Participated in coordinated efforts, such as conferences, workshops, and podcast episodes, that fostered international collaboration

### Steering Committee Member

RESEARCH SOFTWARE ENGINEERING ASSOCIATION

United States

Jan 2022 - Present

- Committed at least five hours per week to steering committee and other meetings including the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI), Outreach, and Code of Conduct and Moderation working groups
- Established the DEI Speaker Series and DEI Media Meetings.

### Co-Chair

WOMEN IN HIGH PERFORMANCE COMPUTING

Purdue University

Jan 2020 - May 2022

- Organized and served as the host for invited talks where members shared their work or research
- Created and maintained a formal newsletter featuring opportunities and events for members
- Submitted annual reports and participated in conference events for the international umbrella organization

## REVIEWING

- 2023 **US-RSE**, Notebook Submissions
- 2023 **SciPy**, Tutorials and Digital Humanities
- 2022 **SC**, Student Cluster Competition, Reproducibility Paper

## Teaching Experience and Training

### Carpentries Instructor Training

TRAINEE

*The Carpentries*

*June 2023*

### Graduate Partners in Science Education: K - 12 STEM Education & Outreach

CURRICULUM DEVELOPER

*Arizona State University*

*Aug 2022 - Dec 2022*

### Object-Oriented Programming

UNDERGRADUATE TEACHING ASSISTANT

*Purdue University*

*Aug 2015 - May 2016*

## TUTORIALS

July 2023 **How the Little Jupyter Notebook Became a Web App: Managing Increasing Complexity with nbdev**  
(4 hours), SciPy, Austin, TX

Apr 2023 **Notebook Submission Tutorial** (1.5 hours), US-RSE, Virtual

## OPEN SOURCE EDUCATION AND TRAINING MATERIALS

Sep 2022 **HPC Unplugged: A lesson plan for teaching parallel and distributed computing** (booklet)

Mar 2020 **R for Research Scientists** (booklet)

## Managerial Experience

### Program Developer and Manager

TWO FULL-TIME RESEARCH SOFTWARE DEVELOPER INTERNSHIP

*Arizona State University*

*Summer/Fall 2023*

- Led trainings, career sessions, code reviews, pair programming, and other sessions intended to prioritize student learning
- Advertized for research software developer positions, evaluated about 250 applications, interviewed graduate and undergraduates, and hired two full-time students
- Developed an 8-week internship program using the Agile framework to keep students both accountable to their original goals but adaptable to roadblocks frequently encountered in original research projects
- These two full-time summer and part-time fall positions were funded by the Better Scientific Software Fellowship listed above

### Applied Management Principles

KRANNERT EXECUTIVE EDUCATION

*Purdue University*

*July 2019*

- Purdue's "mini-MBA" covering accounting, finance, strategy, marketing, negotiations & problem solving, and entrepreneurial skills essential to effective laboratory and grant management

### Staff Mentor

DISCOVER PARK UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH INTERNSHIP

*Purdue University*

*Fall/Spring 2018*

- Defined the scope of a small research software project related to our ongoing research projects and met with each student to help them set achievable short-term goals and support them through challenges they encountered

## Mentorship and Outreach

Fall 2022 **Mentor**, Mentor-Protégé Matching, SC22

Fall 2019 **Staff Advisor**, Student Cluster Competition, SC19

June 2019 **Mentor**, Science Gateways Community Institute Hackathon, PEARC19

Fall 2018 **Near-Peer Mentor**, Mentors for Aspiring Girls in Computing, Purdue University

## Science Communication and Broader Impacts

May 2023 **Host**, Reproducibility Initiative at SC22, *Long Tales of Science*. (episode)

May 2022 **Host**, Trial by Fire, *Long Tales of Science*. (episode)

Apr 2022 **Interviewee**, Research Software Engineering, *Hello PhD*. (episode)

Feb 2022 **Co-Author**, A kind-of brief shared early history of US-RSE, *US-RSE*. (post)

Dec 2021 **Host**, Call 1-800-HLP-DESK, *Long Tales of Science*. (episode)

Oct 2020 **Host**, Models and Simulations Run on the Cluster and in the Family, *Long Tales of Science*. (episode)

# Training

---

## SDSC Summer Institute

SAN DIEGO SUPERCOMPUTER CENTER

- Machine learning in R, big data with Spark, parallel programming with Python, and scientific visualization

*Virtual*

*May 2020*

# Extracurricular Leadership

---

Aug 2016 **Vice President**, Purdue University Triathlon Club

Aug 2015 **Social Media Manager**, Purdue University Triathlon Club

# Extracurricular Activity

---

## Music Theory and Piano Lessons

PRIVATE LESSONS FROM ASU FACULTY ASSOCIATE CATHY BATES

*Jan 2023 - May 2023*

## Vocalist and Keyboardist

ASU PSYCHEDELIC ROCK BAND, RUQE

*Aug 2022 - Dec 2022*

## MAJOR ENDURANCE SPORT EVENTS

Apr 2019 **USA Triathlon Collegiate Club National Championships**, Tempe, AZ

Oct 2018 **Chicago Marathon**, Chicago, IL

Aug 2018 **Ironman 70.3 Steelhead Triathlon**, Benton Harbor, MI

Aug 2017 **Ironman 70.3 Steelhead Triathlon**, Benton Harbor, MI

Apr 2017 **USA Triathlon Collegiate Club National Championships**, Tuscaloosa, AL

Nov 2016 **Monumental Marathon**, Indianapolis, IN

Aug 2016 **Ironman 70.3 Steelhead Triathlon**, Benton Harbor, MI

Apr 2016 **USA Triathlon Collegiate Club National Championships**, Clemson, SC

Jan 2016 **Disney World Marathon**, Orlando, FL