Kendall Hall

**Award: WSGC Graduate and Professional Research Fellowship; $4926.00**

**Status: Ph.D., Astronomy**

**Advisor: Snezana Stanimirovic**

**Research Topic: Molecular Gas Evolution and "CO-Dark" Gas in Perseus**

**Abstract: Understanding molecular cloud formation is important to understanding star formation, but the processes by which it happens are still not clear. In particular, the importance of interstellar turbulence for molecule formation is still not understood. I propose to measure abundances of ionized carbon (CII) and OH molecules across the Perseus molecular cloud and compare abundance trends with predictions from both stationary and turbulence driven models of molecular cloud evolution. This study will provide a unique observational test for the importance of interstellar turbulence for molecule formation in the interstellar medium.**

**Biography: Kendall is a first year graduate student pursuing her PhD in Astronomy at UW-Madison.  
She received her B.S. in physics with minors of astronomy and piano performance from  
California State University, Fresno. Her research interests include the structure of the interstellar medium and photo-dominated regions, where the interstellar medium interacts with the radiation of nearby stars. When she isn’t studying hydrogen, carbon, and oxygen in space, she likes to swing dance, play piano, and bake desserts.**

**Congressional District: 2**

**Congressional Representative: Mark Pocan**