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# Kyle W. Willett

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## Education

PH.D., ASTROPHYSICS  
(in progress; expected May 2011)

**University of Colorado**, Boulder, CO  
*“OH Masers from Andromeda to the Peak of Cosmic Star Formation”*

M.S., ASTROPHYSICS, 2007

Thesis advisor: Prof. Jeremy Darling  
**University of Colorado**, Boulder, CO

B.A., PHYSICS, 2005  
(*magna cum laude*)

**Carleton College**, Northfield, MN

## Research Interests

- Astrophysical masers
- Molecular astrophysics
- Merging galaxies
- Active galactic nuclei
- Interstellar matter
- Local Group dynamics

## Research Experience

GRADUATE RESEARCH ASSISTANT, **University of Colorado** (2006–present). Ph.D. thesis research on OH masers, including both single-dish and interferometric searches for masers as well as ground- and space-based infrared studies of maser host galaxies with Prof. Jeremy Darling. Additional research on infrared properties of young radio galaxies with Prof. John Stocke.

JUNIOR RESEARCH ASSOCIATE, **National Radio Astronomy Observatory** (Jun–Aug 2006). Reduction and analysis of a high-frequency radio survey for molecular absorbers at  $z \sim 1$ , with Drs. Chris Carilli and Nissim Kanekar.

## Teaching Experience

LECTURER IN ASTRONOMY, **University of Colorado** (June–July 2009). Instructor of record for the ASTR 1110 course “The Solar System”. Created all lectures, assignments, exams, and observing activities for a 30-student course.

TEACHING ASSISTANT, **University of Colorado** (2005–2006). Instructor for two laboratory sections of “Introductory Astronomy” and for two laboratory sections of “Accelerated Introductory Astronomy”. Designed a new lab activity for the accelerated course and rewrote the solution set for the coursewide lab manual.

GRADUATE TEACHER PROGRAM, **University of Colorado** (2005–present). Participated in over 30 hours of educational workshops and seminars through the Graduate Teacher Program, including both astronomy-specific and general pedagogy. Included faculty observation and feedback, video recording, and one-on-one evaluations of my teaching performance.

## Observational Experience

- Principal investigator on Green Bank Telescope proposal 10B-035 (70 hrs.)
- Principal investigator on Arecibo Observatory proposal A2505 (3 hrs.)
- Co-investigator on Green Bank Telescope proposals 08A-043 (25 hrs.), 08B-035 (71 hrs.), 10C-039 (30 hrs.)
- Co-investigator on VLA proposal AD583 (25 hrs.)
- Co-investigator on Spitzer Space Telescope proposal 50591
- Near-infrared observing at Apache Point 3.5m ARC telescope (3 half-nights).
- Two on-site observing runs for radio pulsars at Parkes Observatory, NSW, Australia.

## Awards and Recognition

- Ph.D. candidacy exam **high pass**, University of Colorado (2007)
- **Phi Beta Kappa**, Carleton College (2005)
- **Lawrence Gould Prize in Natural Science**, Carleton College (2005)
- **Mike Ewers Award in Astronomy**, Carleton College (2004)

## Service and Membership

- **Referee** for *MNRAS* (2010–present)
- **Junior Member**, American Astronomical Society (2005–present)
- Graduate student **committee member**, Dept. of Astrophysics and Planetary Science, Univ. of Colorado: colloquium (2005–06), graduate exams (2007), graduate admissions (2008), faculty representative (2009–2010)
- Sommers-Bausch Observatory **open house volunteer** (2005–present)
- Astronomy Day **volunteer**, University of Colorado (2005–present)

## Professional references

**Prof. Jeremy Darling**

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**Prof. John T. Stocke**

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**Prof. Vassilis Charmandaris**

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**Prof. Eric Perlman**

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