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# Kyle W. Willett

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## Education

PH.D., ASTROPHYSICAL AND PLANETARY SCIENCES, 2011

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

Thesis advisor: Prof. Jeremy Darling

M.S., ASTROPHYSICAL, PLANETARY, AND ATMOSPHERIC SCIENCES, 2007

**University of Colorado**, Boulder, CO

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

**Carleton College**, Northfield, MN

## Research Interests

- Galaxy morphology
- Blazars
- Astrophysical masers
- Galaxy evolution
- Citizen science
- Active galactic nuclei

## Research Experience

RESEARCH ASSOCIATE, **University of Minnesota** (2011–present). Postdoctoral research with the group of Prof. Lucy Fortson. Lead data scientist for the Galaxy Zoo project (2015–). Led reduction and analysis of the Galaxy Zoo 2 project. Worked on environmental properties of blazars/BL Lacs and the evolutionary blazar sequence. Developed new research tools for citizen science projects at the Zooniverse.

GRADUATE RESEARCH ASSISTANT, **University of Colorado** (2006–2011). 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 redshift  $z \sim 1$ , with Drs. Chris Carilli and Nissim Kanekar.

## Teaching Experience

LECTURER IN PHYSICS, **University of Minnesota** (Jan–May 2014). Instructor for PHYS 1101 course, “Introductory College Physics I” (classical mechanics for non-major undergraduates). Created and supervised lectures, assignments, exams, and lab activities for a 200-student course.

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** (2005–2011). 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 proposals 50591, 80070
- 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 *ApJ*, *MNRAS*, *PASP* (2010–present)
- **Full 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** (2005–2011)
- Astronomy Day **volunteer**, University of Colorado (2005–2011)

## Invited talks

- **University of Colorado**, March 2008
- **Minnesota Astronomical Society**, August 2011
- **Augsburg College**, October 2011
- **University of Minnesota**, November 2011
- **Yale University**, April 2013
- **University of Portsmouth**, May 2013

- **University of Oxford**, May 2013
- **Royal Astronomical Society**, May 2013
- **Minnesota State University, Mankato**, Feb 2014
- **Bell Museum, University of Minnesota**, Feb 2015
- **Grinnell College**, Apr 2015
- **University of Kentucky**, Feb 2016

## Professional references

### **Prof. Jeremy Darling**

University of Colorado  
Dept. of Astrophysics and Planetary Science  
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Boulder, CO 80309  
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### **Prof. Kevin Schawinski**

ETH Zürich  
Dept. of Physics  
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### **Prof. Chris Lintott**

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### **Prof. Lucy Fortson**

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