# AMBER VANESSA YOUNG

Northern Arizona University
S San Francisco St.
Telephone: (484) 332-9749
Email: ambervbritt@gmail.com

Flagstaff, AZ 86011 Secondary Email: <a href="mailto:amber.v.britt@nasa.gov">amber.v.britt@nasa.gov</a>

## **EDUCATION**

Northern Arizona University, Flagstaff, Arizona

Ph.D. Planetary Sciences & Astronomy

Expected May 2023

Advisors: Dr. Tyler Robinson(Astronomy)

Fisk University, Nashville, Tennessee August 2017-June 2019

**M.S.** Physics CGPA: 3.41/4.00

Advisors: Dr. Keivan Stassun (Astronomy), Dr. Dina Myers Stroud (Biology)

Pennsylvania State University, University Park, Pennsylvania August 2012-May 2016

**B.S.** Planetary Sciences and Astronomy CGPA: 3.32/4.00

Advisors: Dr. Julia Kregenow (Astronomy), Dr. James Kasting (Geoscience), Dr. Chris Palma (Astronomy)

### RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

### Fisk University, Nashville, Tennessee

August 2017-Present

Supervised by: Dr. Keivan Stassun, Dr. Dina Stroud, and Dr. Shawn Domagal-Goldman

- \* Researching potential sources and sinks for methane in the Martian atmosphere corresponding to measurements taken with SAM (Sample Analysis at Mars)
- ❖ Simulating temporal variations of methane in the Martian atmosphere over the course of a Martian year
- ❖ 1<sup>st</sup> author publication of this work is in review with the Journal of Geophysical Research (JGR)-Planets

#### NASA Goddard Space Flight Center, Greenbelt, Maryland

August 2016-Present

Supervised by: Dr. Shawn Domagal-Goldman, Dr. Ravi Kopparapu, and Dr. Giada Arney

- Researching potential sources and sinks for methane in the Martian atmosphere corresponding to measurements taken with SAM (Sample Analysis at Mars)
- ❖ Developed photochemical templates for Mars and Earth to be implemented in our 1D climate and photochemical models
- ❖ Utilized expertise with Git language to assist team members with their code development

## NASA Goddard Space Flight Center, Greenbelt, Maryland

August 2016-July 2017

Supervised by: Dr. Avi Mandell

- ❖ Studied the observability for potential TESS planet candidates using photochemical and climate modeling
- Analyzed five theoretical planetary cases orbiting an M star to examine the correlations (if any) between stellar insulation, planetary radius, and surface temperature
- ❖ Provided simulation results to be presented at AAS meeting 2017

# Pennsylvania State University, University Park, Pennsylvania

October 2014-July 2016

Supervised by: Dr. James Kasting

- ❖ Investigated atmospheric solutions (using photochemical modeling) consistent with micrometeorites referenced in the Tomkins et al. Nature paper published in 2016
- ❖ Examined the Deuterium production in the Martian atmosphere utilizing outputs from the quantum multiple scattering fragmentation (QMSFRG) model
- ❖ Conducted an atmospheric study that disputed results published by Poulsen et al. 2015 on the role of oxygen in climate forcing during the Phanerozoic

# FELLOWSHIPS, AWARDS and HONORS

NASA Recent Graduates Fellowship

Women In Science and Engineering (WISE) Scholarship

President's Freshman Award

August 2016-Present

January 2015

December 2012

# **ACADEMIC OUTREACH**

NEXUS Orientation Leader July 2014-May 2016

Mentor to freshman astronomy students

**Astronomy Club Member** August 2014-May 2016

Demonstrated astronomy related activities to hundreds of attendees at AstroFest

Lion Ambassador Volunteer April 2016

Provided personalized campus tours to prospective astronomy students

## TALKS AND PRESENTATIONS

**A. Britt,** "Simulated Exoplanet Observations with HabEx and LUVOIR: Preparing for the Hunt for Biosignatures", presented at the Astrobiology Graduate Conference, July, 2019

**A. Britt,** "Coronagraph Simulations with LUVOIR and HabEx: The New Era of Exoplanet Direct Imaging and Characterization", presented at the American Astronomical Society Meeting, January, 2019

**A. Britt,** "Coronagraph Simulations for HabEx", presented at the HabEx Community Meeting on Astrophysics, October, 2018

- **A. Britt,** "Simulations of Methane on Mars Utilizing Curiosity Data," presented at the Comparative Climatology of Terrestrial Planet Atmpospheres-3, August, 2018
- **A. Britt**, "Simulations of Methane on Mars Using Curiosity Data," presented at the Astrobiology Graduate Conference, June, 2018
- **A. Britt**, "Modeling MSL Measurements of Modern Martian Methane," presented at the Astrobiology Science Conference, April, 2017
- **A. Britt**, "Making Martian Methane via Surface H Release," presented at the American Geophysical Union, December, 2016

#### **PUBLICATIONS**

- **Young, A.**, Domagal-Goldman, S., Claire, M., Mahaffy, P., Trainer, M., Webster, C. "Photochemical Modeling of Martian Methane Constrained by Curiosity Data." *Journal of Geophysical Research-Planets*. In Review.
- Tremblay, L., **Britt, A**., Batalha, N., Schwieterman, E., Arney, G., Domagal-Goldman, S., ... Virtual Planetary Laboratory. (2017). Exploring JWST's Capability to Constrain Habitability on Simulated Terrestrial TESS Planets (Vol. 229, p. 245.03). Presented at the American Astronomical Society Meeting Abstracts #229.
- Payne, R; **Britt, A**; Chen, H; Liu, J; Kasting, J; Catling, D (2016). "The Response of Earth's Surface Temperature to Variations in Oxygen Concentration in the Atmosphere." *Journal of Geophysical Research: Atmospheres,* 121(17), 10,089-10,096.