Tracy L. Beck

Curriculum Vitae

Contact Information:

Postal Address:
Gemini Observatory
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Education:

Ph. D. in Astronomy: June 2001, State University of New York (SUNY) – Stony Brook
M. S. in Astronomy: May 1997, SUNY – Stony Brook
B. S. in Astrophysics: June 1995, University of California at Los Angeles

Employment:

August 2001 – Present: Gemini Science Fellow, Gemini North Observatory
June 1996 – June 2001: Research Assistant under Michal Simon at SUNY-SB
January 2000 – May 2000: Astronomy Instructor, Suffolk Community College
June 1995 – August 1995: Research Assistant under A. M. Ghez at UCLA

Professional References:

Michal Simon (SUNY – Stony Brook; michal.simon@sunysb.edu)
Inger Jorgensen (Gemini Observatory; ijorgensen@gemini.edu)
Colin Aspin (U. Hawaii, IfA, Hilo; caa@ifa.hawaii.edu)

Committees, Distinctions and Awards:

Gemini Near Infrared Integral Field Spectrograph (NIFS) Instrument Scientist (Fall 2002 – Present)
Gemini Observatory Time Allocation Committee (Fall 2003 – Spring 2005)
Keck OSIRIS Data Reduction Design Review Committee (May 2003)
"Galactic Center Workshop" Local Organizing Committee, Keahou, HI (Nov. 2002)
SUNY Stony Brook Physics, Peter Kahn Graduate Fellowship Award (May 2000)

Astronomical Observing Experience:

Mar. 1998 – Oct 2006		NASA's IR Telescope Facility (IRTF), Mauna Kea, HI
	Total time:	36 nights
	Instruments:	NSFCam (1-5μm infrared imaging)
		SpeX (1-5μm spectroscopy)
		CSHELL (near IR echelle spectroscopy)
Sep 1998		Wyoming Infrared Observatory (WIRO), Mt. Jelm, WY
	Total time:	18 nights

Instruments:	IoCam (1-5μm imaging)
Aug 2001 – Present	Gemini North Observatory, Mauna Kea, HI
Total time:	More than 130 nights (queue observing)
Instruments:	GMOS (optical imaging, longslit, MOS, IFU) NIRI (near IR imaging, longslit) Michelle (mid IR imaging, longslit, echelle) NIFS (near IR AO-fed IFU) Altair/Altair+LGS (natural and laser guide star adaptive optics)
Mar 2003	Gemini South Observatory, Cerro Pachon, Chile
Total time:	9 nights
Instruments:	CIRPASS (near IR IFU)

Duties as Instrument Scientist for Gemini's Near-Infrared Integral Field Spectrograph (NIFS):

- Lead the on-sky instrument acceptance tests and science commissioning
- Lead the NIFS commissioning with laser guide star adaptive optics
- Coordinate the NIFS System Verification observations (with and without laser AO)
- Construct and test the data reduction package (in IRAF) for reducing the complex NIFS IFU data structures to a scientifically useful product.