LAUREN DYSARZ

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EDUCATION

University of California, Santa Barbara *September 2025 – Present*
Ph.D. in Physics, Astrophysics Emphasis
Advisor: Dr. Caitlin Casey

University of St. Thomas, Houston, TX *August 2021 – May 2025*
B.S. in Physics, Minor in Mathematics

RESEARCH APPOINTMENTS

UC Santa Barbara, Department of Physics *June 2026 – Present*
Graduate Student Researcher Santa Barbara, CA
Advisor: Dr. Caitlin Casey
Unpacking the diversity of dusty star-forming galaxies: JWST imaging and spectroscopy of their structures and evolutionary paths

Space Telescope Science Institute *August 2024 – September 2025*
Post-Baccalaureate Researcher Remote
Advisors: Dr. Katherine Alatalo, Dr. Kate Rowlands, & Dr. Duncan Farrah
Quenching in the low-mass galaxy IC2520

Johns Hopkins University *May 2024 – August 2024*
Rowland Summer Research Fellow Baltimore, MD
Advisors: Dr. Katherine Alatalo & Dr. Kate Rowlands
Star formation and gas content of IC2520

Green Bank Observatory / NRAO *May 2023 – August 2023*
Summer Research Student Green Bank, WV
Advisor: Dr. Anika Schmiedeke
Gas kinematics of the prestellar core L1544

Undergraduate

Magneto-Optical Characterization, UST Dept. of Physics & Engineering *May 2024 – May 2025*
Chladni Plate Oscillations, UST Dept. of Physics & Engineering *July 2022 – May 2024*
3D-Printed ABS Mechanical Properties, UST Dept. of Physics & Engineering *July 2022 – May 2023*

PRODUCTS

Dysarz et al. (in prep). *To Quench or Not to Quench: Exploring the Future of IC2520.*

Dysarz, L. (2023). *Gas Kinematics of the Prestellar Core L1544.* NRAO Summer Student Report. [link]

PRESENTATIONS

Talk, GalFRESCA 2026: Galaxy Formation & Evolution in Southern California (Irvine, CA) *Sep 2026*
Evolution and Diversity of Dusty Star-Forming Galaxies

iPoster, American Astronomical Society 245th Meeting (National Harbor, MD) *Jan 2025*
To Quench or Not to Quench: Exploring the Future of IC2520 (Abstract ID 130) [iPoster]

Poster, JHU Summer STEM Research Symposium (Baltimore, MD) *Aug 2024*
The Evolution of IC2520

iPoster, American Astronomical Society 243rd Meeting (New Orleans, LA) *Jan 2024*
Gas Kinematics of the Prestellar Core L1544 (Abstract ID 4466) [iPoster]

Talk, NRAO Summer Student Symposium (Green Bank, WV) *Aug 2023*
Gas Kinematics of the Prestellar Core L1544

Poster, University of St. Thomas Research Symposium *Apr 2023, Apr 2024, Apr 2025*

TEACHING & MENTORING

Teaching Assistant, UC Santa Barbara, Department of Physics *September 2025 – June 2026*
Physics Mechanics Lab and Optics Lab

Undergraduate Teaching Assistant, UST Dept. of Physics & Engineering *Jan 2022 – May 2025*
Courses: Gen. Physics I & II, Univ. Physics I & II (all with lab), Statics, Circuits,
Modern Physics, Fundamentals of Nanotechnology

Physics Inspiring the Next Generation (PING) *July 2023*
Mentor, Green Bank Observatory
Led workshops and telescope observations for high school astronomy camp participants

Minority Science & Engineering Improvement Program (MSEIP) *June 2022 – May 2024*
Mentor, UST Dept. of Physics & Engineering
Academic support and STEM workshops for low-income and minority students

AWARDS & RECOGNITIONS

Distinguished Student in Physics, University of St. Thomas *2025*
Dean's List, University of St. Thomas *2021 – 2025*
Presidential Excellence Scholarship *2021 – 2025*
Newman Ann Scholarship *2022 – 2025*
Dr. Sik H. Kwan Physics Endowed Scholarship *2022 – 2024*
James M. Hughes Endowed Scholarship *2023 – 2024*
Fort Bend County Fair Scholarship *2021 – 2023*
Lyons Foundation Endowed Scholarship *2021 – 2022*

SERVICE & OUTREACH

Local Organizing Committee, COSMOS 2026 (UC Santa Barbara) *July 2026*
Helped plan and run the annual COSMOS collaboration meeting hosted at UCSB

President, Society of Physics Students, UST *June 2022 – May 2025*
Organized conferences, public astronomy nights, eclipse viewing events, and student-led design projects

Volunteer, High School STEM Events *Feb 2022 – May 2025*
Led hands-on physics and astronomy demonstrations for K–12 students

CONFERENCES ATTENDED

GalFRESCA 2026 (Irvine, CA) *September 2026*
COSMOS 2026 Annual Collaboration Meeting (Santa Barbara, CA) *July 2026*
American Astronomical Society 245th Meeting *January 2025*
American Astronomical Society 243rd Meeting *January 2024*
Conference for Undergraduate Women in Physics (CUWIP), Texas Christian University *January 2023*
Joint Fall Meeting, Texas Sections of APS, AAPT, and SPS *October 2021, October 2022*
NRAO Summer Student Workshops *May 2023*