ALIA R. WOFFORD

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OBJECTIVE

Advancing PhD student exploring postdoctoral and research opportunities

EDUCATION

Ph.D. Candidate Climate Dynamics
George Mason University 2021 - 2026(Expected)

M.Sc. Atmospheric Sciences
Howard University 2019 - 2021

B.Sc. Biology and Comprehensive Science with Teaching Licensure
Elizabeth City State University 2013 - 2017

SKILLS

Technical Skills Python, R, Data Analysis, Climate Modeling, GitHub (Foundational), Bash (Foundational)
Soft Skills Project management, Team leadership, Scientific writing, Written and verbal communication

RELEVANT EXPERIENCE

Comisic AI Program Coordinator March 2024 - Current
National Radio Astronomy Observatory *Charlottesville, Virginia*

- Coordinated with principal investigator from University of Texas at Austin and external researchers from the University of Virginia, University of Utah, National Radio Astronomy Observatory (NRAO), National Optical and Infrared Research Laboratory (NOIRLab), and University of California Los Angeles to design a program that would grow transformative AI advances, reform research workflows, and increase astronomy and AI accessibility
- Developed and implemented streamlined registration and communication systems including designing websites using CANVA leading to improvements in participant engagement
- Served as primary point of contact for student participants, providing responsive support and resolving issues to ensure positive experiences
- Streamlined administrative operations by maintaining organized databases, coordinating schedules, and tracking project timelines, resulting in improved workflow efficiency

Graduate Research Assistant Aug 2021 - Current
George Mason University *Fairfax, Virginia*

- Designed and executed experiments using Rocke3D, a general circulation model for simulating the climates of rocky planets, analyzed datasets using Python and NetCDF. Work resulted in publications submitted to peer-reviewed journals
- Using Global Climate Models and advanced data reduction techniques, conducted statistical analysis on large-scale datasets identifying key patterns for Feature Extraction/Selection and Data Reduction
- Developed automated data pipelines using Python, NetCDF and General Circulation Models that streamlined simulation and analysis workflow
- Presented research findings at American Geophysical Union (AGU) and American Astronomical Society (AAS)

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Astrobiology, Exoplanet Detection and Characterization, Instrumentation and Technology Development, High-Performance Computing for Astronomical Simulations, Computational Modeling