
RACHEL BEZANSON

Steward Observatory
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(US Citizen)

observational galaxy formation and evolution through cosmic time

EDUCATION

Yale University, New Haven, Connecticut 2007-2013

M.Phil., M.S., Ph.D. - Astronomy

Thesis Title: *Ten Billion Years of Growth: Massive Galaxy Evolution from Structures and Dynamics*

Advisor: Dr. Pieter van Dokkum

Barnard College, Columbia University, New York, New York 1999-2003

B.A. - Astrophysics

summa cum laude, Phi Beta Kappa, Dean's List all years

Department Honors & Distinction on Senior Research Requirement

FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS

Hubble Fellowship, Steward Observatory, University of Arizona, Tucson, AZ 2013-present

Howard Hughes Grant for Undergraduate Research, with Elena Aprile, Columbia, NY 2001

CONFERENCES AND TALKS

- Hubble Symposium, contributed talk, March 2015
- The Most Massive Galaxies and Their Precursors, contributed talk, Feb 2015
- Astronomy Colloquium, University of Washington, *Invited talk*, Oct. 2014
- Open University Seminar, Milton Keynes, UK, Oct. 2014
- Galaxy Masses as Constraints of Formation Models, Oxford, contributed talk, Jul. 2014
- Hubble Symposium, contributed talk, March 2014
- Unveiling the Formation of Massive Galaxies, Aspen, contributed talk, Feb. 2014
- Extragalactic Seminar, UT-Austin, Oct. 2013
- Bash Symposium, UT-Austin, *Invited talk*, Oct. 2013
- Astronomy Seminar, Texas A&M, *Invited talk*, Sept. 2013
- NOAO FLASH Talk, NOAO, Sept. 2013
- Dissertation Talk, AAS-Long Beach, Jan. 2013
- OIR Seminar, CfA, Dec. 2012
- Journal Club Talk, U.C.L.A., Oct. 2012
- Caltech Tea Talk, California Institute of Technology, Oct. 2012
- FLASH talk, U.C.-Santa Cruz, Oct. 2012
- Berkeley Cosmology Seminar and Galform Talks, *Invited talk*, U.C.-Berkeley, Oct. 2012
- IAU Intriguing Lives of Massive Galaxies Session, Beijing, poster presentation, Aug. 2012
- Galaxies Insight-Out Conference, Leiden, *Invited talk*, July 2012

- Galaxy Formation Conference, Durham, poster presentation, July. 2011
- Deep IR studies of the Distant Universe Meeting, Leiden, contributed talk, Feb. 2009
- Evolution of Galaxies from Mass-Selected Samples, Leiden, contributed talk, Nov. 2009

ADDITIONAL EXPERIENCE

Observing

HST – WFC3: 13 orbit imaging program (Proposal #12167)

Keck – LRIS: 8 nights, **DEIMOS:** 3 nights

Blanco 4.0 meter: 15 nights imaging with NEWFIRM medium band NIR filters

SMARTS – Yale 1.0 m: 8 nights imaging

Surveys and Large Collaborations:

Newfirm Medium Band Survey (NMBS) and NMBSII

3DHST - Spectroscopic Galaxy Evolution Survey with HST

CHOMP survey, *PI*

LEGA-C survey, *Survey Scientist*, <http://www.mpia.de/home/legac/index.html>

Computing: experience with C, IDL, IRAF, Python

Service: Referee for MNRAS, ApJ, and ApJL

TEACHING AND OUTREACH

- Steward Observatory Public Lecture, March 2014
Galactic Cannibalism: the Growth of Massive Galaxies through Cosmic Time
podcast: <https://www.as.arizona.edu/public-evening-lecture-series-podcasts>
- Guest Lectures for Undergraduate and Graduate Courses, University of Arizona, Spring & Fall 2014
ASTR 302- Introduction to Astronomical Observation, ASTR 300A - Astronomy and Astrophysics
ASTR 540 - Structure and Dynamics of Galaxies
- *The Yale PhD: 150 Years of Leadership for Yale and the World*,
Annual Meeting of the Association of Yale Alumni, *Invited talk*, Nov. 2011
- Science in the News: “The Anatomy of a Galaxy Inside-out” outreach talk, Yale, Feb. 2011
- Teaching Fellow, Yale University, 2007-2009
Designed weekly discussion sessions, led homework/exam review sessions, developed supplemental and complementary curricula, grading
ASTR 110 - Planets and Stars
ASTR 120 - Galaxies and the Universe
ASTR 160 - Frontiers and Controversies in Astrophysics
- Public Observing at Leitner Family Observatory, Yale, 2008-2010
Led bi-weekly public observing nights at the observatory
- High School Physics & Astronomy Teacher, Poly Prep Country Day School, NY, 2003-2007
Designed lesson plans, introduced new curriculum, prepared laboratory experiments, graded assignments, and provided individual help and mentoring
Courses taught: high school physics, AP physics, 8th grade physical science, and two astronomy electives

REFERENCES

Prof. Pieter van Dokkum
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