

# Laura Ann Lopez

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**BORN** – April 30, 1982; Evanston, IL, USA

## EDUCATION

- 2011 **University of California, Santa Cruz**  
Ph.D. (anticipated), Astronomy & Astrophysics
- 2007 **University of California, Santa Cruz**  
M.S., Astronomy & Astrophysics
- 2004-2005 **Pennsylvania State University**  
Graduate study, Astronomy & Astrophysics
- 2004 **Massachusetts Institute of Technology**  
B.S., Physics, Minors in Astronomy and Political Science

## AWARDS

- 2009 AAS Beth Brown Memorial Prize (for best astronomy poster at NSBP/NSHP meeting)
- 2007 Whitford Prize (for highest preliminary exam score), UCSC
- 2006-2009 National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship
- 2005-2006 Eugene Cota-Robles Fellowship, University of California
- 2004-2005 Braddock/Roberts Fellowship, Eberly College of Science, Pennsylvania State University
- 2004-2005 Bunton-Waller Fellowship, Pennsylvania State University
- 2004 Zaccheus Daniel Trust Award, PSU Astronomy & Astrophysics Department
- 2004 NASA Harriet Jenkins Predoctoral Fellowship (declined)
- 2004 Alan H. Barrett Prize (for best astrophysics thesis), MIT
- 2004 Joel Matthew Orloff Award (for outstanding service in physics), MIT
- 2001, 2002 American Physical Society Corporate Minority Scholar

## RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

- 2005- Dept of Astronomy & Astrophysics, UCSC  
Advisors: Profs Enrico Ramirez-Ruiz, Jason X. Prochaska, Mark Krumholz
- 2004-2005 Dept of Astronomy & Astrophysics, Pennsylvania State University, State College, PA  
Advisor: Professor Niel Brandt
- 2002-2004 MIT Center for Space Research, Chandra HETGS Group, Cambridge, MA  
Advisors: Dr. Herman Marshall and Professor Claude Canizares
- Summer 2002 NSF REU Program in Observational Astronomy at Cornell University, Ithaca, NY  
Advisor: Professor Steve Eikenberry
- 2001-2002 MIT Center for Space Research, Cambridge, MA  
Advisor: Dr. Ronald Remillard
- Summer 2001 NASA Goddard Space Flight Center, Lab for High-Energy Astrophysics, Greenbelt, MD  
Advisor: Dr. Michael Corcoran
- 2001 MIT Center for Space Research, X-ray Optics Group, Cambridge, MA  
Advisor: Dr. Michael McGuirk

## REFEREED PUBLICATIONS

- Lopez, L. A.**, Brandt, W. N., Vignali, C., Schneider, D. P., Chartas, G., Garmire, G. “A Chandra Snapshot Survey of Representative High-Redshift Radio-Loud Quasars from the PMN Sample”, 2006, *AJ*, 131, 1914
- Lopez, L. A.**, Marshall, H. L., Canizares, C. R., Kane, J. F., Schulz, N. S. “Determining the Nature of the SS 433 Binary from an X-ray Spectrum During Eclipse”, 2006, *ApJ*, 650, 338
- Lopez, L. A.**, Ramirez-Ruiz, E., Pooley, D. A., Jeltema, T. E. “Tools to Dissect Supernova Remnants Observed with Chandra: Methods and Application to the Galactic Remnant W49B”, 2009, *ApJ*, 691, 875

**Lopez, L. A.**, Ramirez-Ruiz, E., Badenes, C., Huppenkothen, D., Jeltema, T.E., Pooley, D. A., Jeltema, T. E.  
“Typing Supernova Remnants Using X-ray Line Emission Morphologies”, 2009, submitted to ApJL

Prochaska, J. X., Sheffer, Y., Perley, D. A., Bloom, J. S., **Lopez, L. A.**, Dessauges-Zavadsky, M., Chen, H.-W.,  
Filippenko, A. V., Ganeshalingam, M., Li, W., Miller, A. A., Starr, D. “First Detection of Molecular Gas  
in a GRB Host Galaxy, 2009, ApJL 691, L27

### **APPROVED ASTRONOMICAL OBSERVING PROGRAMS**

2009 PI, Chandra archival proposal (\$54K), Cycle 11  
Title: “Dissecting Supernova Remnants Observed with Chandra”  
2009 Co-I, 30 ks, Chandra ACIS-S, Cycle 10 GO Time (PI: Leo Blitz)  
“Title”: NGC 1266: Local Candidate for AGN Feedback”  
2008 Co-I, 60 ks, Chandra ACIS-S, Cycle 10 GO Time (PI: Niel Brandt)  
Title: “Identifying High-z X-ray Jets from Radio-Loud Quasars with Chandra”  
2007 PI, 15 hours, National Radio Astronomy Observatory’s Very Large Array, A-Configuration  
Title: “A Search for Extended Radio Jets in Six  $z > 4$  Quasars Imaged with Chandra”  
2004 Co-I, 200 ks, Chandra HETGS, Cycle 06 GTO Time (PI: Claude Canizares)  
Title: “Detailed Studies of the Jets in SS 433”  
2004 PI, 1 hour, Magellan Telescope MIKE, 2004B Time  
Title: “Resolving the Nature of the Thick Disk and Companion in SS 433”  
2004 Co-I, 130 ks, XMM-Newton EPIC, A04 Time (PI: Niel Brandt)  
Title: “Defining the X-ray Properties of the Most Distant RLQs with XMM”

### **CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS**

2009 Chandra Supernova Remnant Symposium, Cambridge, MA  
2009 PANDA Symposium: Products of Astrophysical Outflows, Lijiang, China  
2009 213<sup>th</sup> AAS Meeting, Long Beach, CA  
2008 Sixth GRB Symposium, Huntsville, AL  
2008 Tenth AAS High-Energy Astrophysics Division Meeting, Los Angeles, CA  
2007 Niels Bohr Institute DARK Cosmology Centre Summer Workshop, Copenhagen, Denmark  
2006 Swift and GRBs: Unveiling the Relativistic Universe, Venice, Italy  
2005 The X-ray Universe, El Escorial, Spain  
2004 203<sup>rd</sup> AAS Meeting, Atlanta, GA  
2003 202<sup>nd</sup> AAS Meeting, Nashville, TN

### **TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

2007 Co-Instructor, Introductory Astronomy, Hartnell Community College, Salinas, CA  
2006 Teaching Assistant, Overview of the Universe (AY 2), UCSC  
2003 Grader, Advanced Electromagnetism (8.022), MIT  
2002 Grader, Wave Mechanics (8.03), MIT  
2001 Teaching Assistant, Classical Mechanics (8.01L), MIT

### **SERVICE EXPERIENCE**

2009- Appointed Member, AAS Committee on the Status of Minorities in Astronomy  
2009- Graduate Student Mentor, UCSC Astronomy & Astrophysics Department  
2009-2010 Elected Head & Faculty Liaison of UCSC Astronomy & Astrophysics graduate students  
2008- Editor, AAS CSMA Newsletter *SPECTRUM*  
2007-2009 Member, MIT Educational Council  
2003-2008 Co-Editor, AAS CSMA Newsletter *SPECTRUM*  
2004 Researcher & Organizer, National Survey on Astronomy Faculty Diversity  
2003-2004 President-Elect & Founder, MIT Undergraduate Women in Physics Group  
2003-2004 Founder & Organizer, MIT Graduate-Undergraduate Women Mentor Lunch Program