

O. Grace Telford, Ph.D.

Carnegie-Princeton Postdoctoral Fellow

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EDUCATION

University of Washington

Ph.D. in Astronomy with Specialization in Advanced Data Science 2019

Thesis: "Using Metals and Stars to Constrain Galaxies' Past Gaseous Inflows and Outflows"

Advisors: Julianne Dalcanton and Jessica Werk

Data science coursework: machine learning, database management, data visualization

M.S. in Astronomy 2014

University of Pittsburgh

B.S. in Physics and Astronomy 2013

B.S.E. in Bioengineering with Concentration in Signals & Imaging 2013

ACADEMIC POSITIONS

Princeton University & Carnegie Observatories

Carnegie-Princeton Postdoctoral Fellow 2023 –

Rutgers University

Postdoctoral Associate 2019 – 2023

University of Washington

NSF Graduate Research Fellow 2016 – 2019

NSF Big Data IGERT Fellow 2014 – 2016

Teaching Assistant 2013 – 2014

University of Pittsburgh

Undergraduate Researcher in Physics & Astronomy 2010 – 2013

Undergraduate Researcher at the Simulation & Medical Technology Center 2009 – 2012

National Solar Observatory

NSF REU Student 2010

AWARDED GRANTS AND TELESCOPE TIME

Co-I of HST Cycle 32 Program GO-17833 – 162 orbits 2024

PI of NASA Keck Observatory Program 2024B_N014/N015 – 2.5 nights, \$21k 2024

Co-I of JWST Cycle 3 Program GO-5255 – 14.7 hours 2024

PI of NASA Keck Observatory Program 2024A_N063 – 1.5 nights, \$16k 2023

PI of Hubble Space Telescope Cycle 31 Treasury Program GO-17491 – 110 orbits, \$269k 2023

Co-PI of Hubble Space Telescope Cycle 31 Program AR-17557 2023

PI of JWST Cycle 2 Program GO-3449 – 15.4 hours, \$191k 2023

PI of NASA Keck Observatory Program 2023A_N048 – 1 night, \$15k 2022

Co-I of Hubble Space Telescope Cycle 30 Program GO-17102 – 16 orbits	2022
PI of NASA Keck Observatory Program 2022B_N011 – 1 night, \$14k	2022
PI of Hubble Space Telescope Mid-Cycle 29 Program GO-16920 – 14 orbits, \$109k	2022
PI of Hubble Space Telescope Cycle 29 Program GO-16767 – 32 orbits, \$357k	2021
PI of NASA Keck Observatory Program 2021B_N194 – 1 night, \$12k	2021
Co-I of ALMA Cycle 8 Program 2021.1.00169.S – 14.9 hours	2021
Co-I of JWST Cycle 1 Program GO-1617 – 35.7 hours	2021
PI of Hubble Space Telescope Cycle 28 Program AR-16155 – \$158k	2020
Co-I of Hubble Space Telescope Cycle 28 Program AR-16144	2020
Co-I of NASA Keck Observatory Program 2020B_N194 – 1 night	2020
Co-I of Gemini Observatory Program GS-2020B-FT-201 – 13.7 hours	2020
Co-I of Hubble Space Telescope Mid-Cycle 27 Program GO-16048 – 13 orbits	2019

FELLOWSHIPS

Carnegie-Princeton Postdoctoral Fellowship	2023
NASA Hubble Postdoctoral Fellowship (Declined)	2023
Momenta Foundation Mistletoe Research Fellowship	2022
NSF Graduate Research Fellowship	2015
NSF Integrative Graduate Education and Research Traineeship for Data Science	2014

TEACHING & MENTORING

Research Advisor to Graduate Students:

Abby Mintz (Princeton) – analyzed Keck observations of NGC 3109 (PI: Telford)	2023 –
Ciarán Furey (Amsterdam, co-advised) – master’s thesis on metal-poor O stars	2023 –

Research Advisor to Undergraduate Students:

Arya Lakshmanan (Rutgers) – Henry Rutgers Scholar Award for senior thesis	2021 – 2023
Avery Kiihne (Rutgers) – Chambliss Award Honorable Mention at AAS #238	2019 – 2021
Olivia Petry, Travis Mandeville (UW Pre-Major in Astronomy Program)	2017 – 2018

Instructor for Courses and Workshops:

Instructor for the Princeton Undergraduate Summer Research Program Bootcamp	2024
Guest Lecturer for Astronomy 522: Extragalactic Astronomy at Princeton University	2023
Guest Lecturer for Physics 342: Principles of Astrophysics at Rutgers University	2023
Rutgers JWST Proposal Tools Workshop (lead organizer)	2020
Software Carpentry Workshops (taught Python, Linux, Git, and GitHub)	2017 – 2018
TA for undergraduate courses: Introduction to Astronomy, The Planets	2013 – 2014

LEADERSHIP, SERVICE, & INCLUSION WORK

Lead organizer of a 3-week Aspen Center for Physics 2025 Summer Workshop	2024 –
• “Cosmic Change Agents: Massive Stars in the Early Universe”	
PI of the Treasury of Extremely Metal-Poor O Stars (TEMPOS) Collaboration	2023 –
Member of Habitable Worlds Observatory Working Groups	2023 –
Lead of XShootU Collaboration Working Group 9 on Massive Star Feedback	2022 –
Referee for the Astrophysical Journal, Astronomy & Astrophysics	2016 –
Lead of seminars on applying for postdoctoral positions (Rutgers & Princeton)	2022 – 2024
Completed Advancing Inclusive Mentoring (AIM) Training at Carnegie Science	2024
Time Allocation Committee Member for HST Cycle 28, 29 and JWST Cycle 2	2020 – 2023
Founding co-organizer of Rutgers Physics Equity & Inclusion Journal Club	2020 – 2021

SELECTED RECENT TALKS

Invited Seminars & Colloquia:

NASA Goddard Space Flight Center Colloquium	2025
UC Santa Cruz Astronomy & Astrophysics Seminar	2024
University of Connecticut Astrophysics Seminar	2024
Michigan State University Astronomy Seminar	2024
University of Texas at Austin Astronomy Colloquium	2023
University of Pittsburgh/Carnegie Mellon University AstroLunch Seminar	2023

Invited Conference Talks:

STScI Spring Symposium: The Intersection Between Stars and the ISM	2025
KITP Conference: Cosmic Dawn Revealed by JWST	2024
UV Galaxies 2023: Illuminating Galaxy Properties Across Cosmic Time	2023
Lorentz Center Workshop “ULLYSES Sets Sail”	2022
Splinter Meeting on Early ULLYSES Results at AAS #240	2022
Wolfe Symposium (Conference on the CGM)	2022

PRESS & OUTREACH

Speaker at Astronomy on Tap in Seattle, WA; Austin, TX; and Trenton, NJ	2017 – 2024
Astrobites summary of results presented in Telford et al. (2023)	2024
Armagh Observatory & Planetarium press release for XShootU Survey Paper	2023
Results from Telford et al. (2021) profiled in an article for PNAS Front Matter	2022
Public lecturer for amateur astronomy organizations in New Jersey	2021
Presenter at the University of Washington Planetarium & Mobile Planetarium	2014 – 2017

PUBLICATIONS

26 astrophysics papers published or under peer review (see [papers on ADS](#))
Summary statistics from ADS: 4202 citations, h-index = 12

First-Author Papers (7):

7. “Molecular Hydrogen in the Extremely Metal-Poor, Star-Forming Galaxy Leo P”
Telford, O. G., Sandstrom, K., McQuinn, K., Glover, S., Tarantino, L., Bolatto, A., and Rickards Vaught, R. 2024, resubmitted to Nature, arXiv:2410.21368
6. “Observations of Extremely Metal-Poor O Stars: Weak Winds and Constraints for Evolution Models”
Telford, O. G., Chisholm, J., Sander, A., Ramachandran, V., McQuinn, K., and Berg, D. 2024, ApJ, 974 85
5. “The Ionizing Spectra of Extremely Metal-Poor O Stars: Constraints from the Only H II Region in Leo P”
Telford, O. G., McQuinn, K., Chisholm, J., and Berg, D. 2023, ApJ, 943, 65
4. “Far-Ultraviolet Spectra of Main-Sequence O Stars at Extremely Low Metallicity”
Telford, O. G., Chisholm, J., McQuinn, K., and Berg, D. 2021, ApJ, 922, 191
3. “Mass-to-Light Ratios of Spatially Resolved Stellar Populations in M31”
Telford, O. G., Dalcanton, J., Williams, B., Bell, E., Dolphin, A., Durbin, M., and Choi, Y. 2020, ApJ, 891, 32
2. “Spatially Resolved Metal Loss from M31”
Telford, O. G., Werk, J., Dalcanton, J., and Williams, B. 2019, ApJ, 877, 120
1. “Exploring Systematic Effects in the Relation between Stellar Mass, Gas Phase Metallicity, and Star Formation Rate”
Telford, O. G., Dalcanton, J., Skillman, E., and Conroy, C. 2016, ApJ, 827, 35

Contributing-Author Papers (19):

19. “A Spectroscopic Survey of Metal-Poor OB Stars in Local Dwarf Galaxy NGC 3109”
Mintz, A.[†], **Telford, O. G.**, Kirby, E., Chisholm, J., McQuinn, K., and Berg, D. 2024, resubmitted to ApJ
[†]*Student-led paper analyzing data from NASA Keck Program 2023A_N048 (PI: Telford)*
18. “The wind properties of O-type stars at sub-SMC metallicity”
Furey, C.[†], **Telford, O. G.**, de Koter, A., Backs, F., Brands, S., Vink, J., Kaper, L., Gomez-Mantecon, J., Tramper, F., and Garcia, M. 2024, resubmitted to A&A
[†]*Student-led paper, co-advised by Grace Telford & Alex de Koter*
17. “X-Shooting ULLYSES: Massive Stars at Low Metallicity X. Physical Parameters and Feedback of Massive Stars in the LMC N11 B Star-Forming Region”
Gómez-González et al. (including **Telford, O. G.**) 2024, in press at A&A, arXiv:2411.14149

16. “Early Bright Galaxies from Helium Enhancements in High-Redshift Star Clusters”
Katz, H., Ji, A., **Telford, O. G.**, and Senchyna, P. 2024, in press at OJA, arXiv:2410.14846
15. “The Ancient Star Formation History of the Extremely Low-Mass Galaxy Leo P: An Emerging Trend of a Post-Reionization Pause in Star Formation”
McQuinn, K., Newman, M., Skillman, E., **Telford, O. G.**, Brooks, A., Adams, E., Berg, D., Boyer, M., Cannon, J., Dolphin, A., Pahl, A. Rhode, K., Salzer, J., Cohen, R., and Goldman, S. 2024, ApJ, 976, 60
14. “An Empirical Calibration of the Tip of the Red Giant Branch Distance Method in the Near Infrared. II. JWST NIRCcam Wide Filters”
Newman, M., McQuinn, K., Skillman, E., Boyer, M., Cohen, R., Dolphin, A., and **Telford, O. G.** 2024, ApJ, 975, 195
13. “Scylla III. The Outside-In Radial Age Gradient in the Small Magellanic Cloud and the Star Formation Histories of the Main Body, Wing and Outer Regions”
Cohen et al. (including **Telford, O. G.**) 2024, ApJ, 975, 43
12. “Scylla II. The Spatially Resolved Star Formation History of the Large Magellanic Cloud Reveals an Inverted Radial Age Gradient”
Cohen et al. (including **Telford, O. G.**) 2024, ApJ, 975, 42
11. “The Scatter Matters: Circumgalactic Metal Content in the Context of the M - σ Relation”
Sanchez, N., Werk, J., Christensen, C., **Telford, O. G.**, Tremmel, M., Quinn, T., Mead, J., Sharma, R., and Brooks, A. 2024, ApJ, 967, 100
10. “An Empirical Calibration of the Tip of the Red Giant Branch Distance Method in the Near Infrared. I. HST WFC3/IR F110W and F160W Filters”
Newman, M., McQuinn, K., Skillman, E., Boyer, M., Cohen, R., Dolphin, A., and **Telford, O. G.** 2024, ApJ, 966, 175
9. “A Comprehensive Investigation of Metals in the Circumgalactic Medium of Nearby Dwarf Galaxies”
Zheng, Y., Faerman, Y., Oppenheimer, B., Putman, M., McQuinn, K., Kirby, E., Burchett, J., **Telford, O. G.**, Werk, J., and Kim, D. 2024, ApJ, 960, 55
8. “Spatially-Resolved Recent Star Formation History in NGC 6946”
Tran, D., Williams, B., Levesque, E., Lazzarini, M., Dalcanton, J., Dolphin, A., Koplitz, B., Smercina, A., and **Telford, O. G.** 2023, ApJ, 954, 211
7. “X-Shooting ULLYSES: massive stars at low metallicity. I. Project Description”
Vink, J., et al. (including **Telford, O. G.**) 2023, A&A, 675, A154
6. “The Panchromatic Hubble Andromeda Treasury: Triangulum Extended Region (PHATTER) II. The Spatially Resolved Recent Star Formation History of M33”
Lazzarini, M., et al. (including **Telford, O. G.**) 2022, ApJ, 934, 76

5. “Star Formation Histories from SEDs and CMDs Agree: Evidence for Synchronized Star Formation in Local Volume Dwarf Galaxies over the Past 3 Gyr”
Olsen, C., Gawiser, E., Iyer, K., McQuinn, K., Johnson, B., **Telford, O. G.**, Wright, A., Broussard, A., and Kurczynski, P. 2021, *ApJ*, 913, 45
4. “CANDELS Visual Classifications: Scheme, Data Release, and First Results”
Kartaltepe, J., et al. (including **Telford, O. G.**) 2015, *ApJS*, 221, 11
3. “The host galaxies of X-ray selected active galactic nuclei to $z = 2.5$: Structure, star formation, and their relationships from CANDELS and Herschel/PACS”
Rosario, D., et al. (including **Telford, O. G.**) 2015, *A&A*, 573, A85
2. “CANDELS: The Cosmic Assembly Near-infrared Deep Extragalactic Legacy Survey – The Hubble Space Telescope Observations, Imaging Data Products, and Mosaics”
Koekemoer, A., et al. (including **Telford, O. G.**) 2011, *ApJS*, 197, 36
1. “CANDELS: The Cosmic Assembly Near-infrared Deep Extragalactic Legacy Survey”
Grogin, N., et al. (including **Telford, O. G.**) 2011, *ApJS*, 197, 35

Other Publications:

1. “X-Shooting ULLYSES: Massive Stars at Low Metallicity”
Vink, J., et al. (including **Telford, O. G.**) 2024, *ESO Messenger*, arXiv:2405.00085
2. “Gaussian Mixture Models Use-Case: In-Memory Analysis with Myria”
Maas, R., Hyrkas, J., **Telford, O. G.**, Balazinska, M., Connolly, A., and Howe, B. 2015, *Proceedings of the 3rd Very Large Databases Workshop on In-Memory Data Management*
• NB: computer science paper not reflected in ADS statistics; 12 citations.