

WHEN RESEARCH LED TO TRAVELING

A 2019-2020 MSGC Awardee

Hope College Undergraduate Student, Meredith Bomers was given the opportunity to travel to NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center with her Research Mentor Dr. Peter Gonthier. Their trip itinerary included luncheons, tours and workshops relating to NASA's work on black holes, neutron stars and their magnetic fields. This is particularly useful for her research on magnetars which are neutron stars with incredibly strong magnetic fields. More specifically, she is working on research to derive general expressions for interactions between the magnetic field, and charged particles, like electrons, given a number of possible conditions. Meredith and her team are planning on announcing their results through a couple of different papers on cyclotron emission and she was been able to communicate her results at several conferences throughout 2019 and early 2020. Cyclotron emission is electromagnetic radiation that is given off when charged particles are accelerated around strong magnetic fields. Once they finished their work on cyclotron emission, they turned their focus to Compton scattering which is closely related to cyclotron emission and she will continue to work on this project throughout the year.



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