

# UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII AT MĀNOA

Institute for Astronomy

June 24, 2024

Dr. Giulia Murtas  
1501 44<sup>th</sup> St.  
Los Alamos, NM 87544  
Email: gmurtas@lanl.gov

Dear Dr. Murtas

I am pleased to extend this offer of employment under the Institute for Astronomy (IfA). This offer is contingent upon the submittal of the documents required by the Research Corporation of the University of Hawai'i (RCUH) and the approval of your J-1 Visa transfer. The terms of employment are as follows:

**Title of Position:** Helio/Astrophysical Plasma Postdoctoral Fellow  
RCUH ID# 223867

**Program Responsibilities:** Participates in National Science Foundation (NSF) and National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) grant research projects that study the fundamental physics of plasmas in heliospheric or astrophysical contexts. Performs research using either kinetic modeling or in-situ observations. Pursues collaborative and independent research in heliospheric and/or astrophysical plasmas. Publishes articles in peer-reviewed scientific journals and presents results at conferences.

**Employer:** Research Corporation of the University of Hawai'i (RCUH)  
Program Name: Institute for Astronomy  
Program Address: 2680 Woodlawn Drive, Honolulu, Hawaii

**Date of Hire and Duration:** Monday, September 9, 2024 (tentative), pending approval of J-1 visa for two (2) years.

**Salary** \$6,250 per month (or \$ 75,000 annually based on a 100%FTE). The salary is subject to the deductions for taxes and other withholdings as required by law or the policies of RCUH. Please refer to the attached document, RCUH Pre-Arrival and Orientation Information for J-1 Exchange Visitors.

**Disclosure** A relocation allowance up to the amount of \$5,000 will be paid in lieu of moving, relocation and employment transition cost reimbursement and/or payment. The allowance will be processed as additional taxable compensation with all applicable income taxes and FICA amounts deducted. If you do not complete 12 months of service, you will be required to repay the University the full amount of the relocation allowance.

**Type of Employment:** 100% Full-time, 40 hours work week, J-1 Exchange Visitor Visa (Research Scholar)

Term of Employment: This position is temporary. RCUH employees are state, non-civil service employees subject to the policies and procedures of the RCUH. These policies and procedures and description of our employee benefits may be found at the RCUH Home Page ([www.rcuh.com](http://www.rcuh.com)). Continuation of employment is dependent upon program/operational needs, satisfactory work performance, availability of funds and compliance with applicable Federal/State laws.

As a non-regular RCUH employee, you will be eligible for their fringe benefits package which includes: (non-reg) 14 hours of accrued sick leave per month, employer's contribution towards the cost of group life, medical, dental, drug & vision insurance coverage; unemployment/workers compensation coverage and 13 paid holidays per year. If you have any questions regarding benefits, please contact [hrhelp@ifa.hawaii.edu](mailto:hrhelp@ifa.hawaii.edu).

The primary purpose of a J-1 Exchange Visitor visa is to promote the exchange of culture and knowledge. Upon completion of your activity in the United States or upon reaching the maximum allowable length of stay, you must return to your home country.

Probationary Period: All new regular and non-regular status new hire will be on a twelve (12) month New Hire Probation Period. Refer to RCUH policy 3.264.

Benefits: Please refer to the attached document, [RCUH Pre-Arrival and Orientation Information for J-1 Exchange Visitors and RCUH New Hire Reference Guide](#). As a J-1 exchange visitor, you will be required to obtain and maintain adequate health insurance coverage for yourself and any J-2 family members who accompany you.

#### Program Cultural Goals and Components

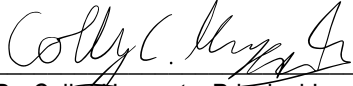
We believe that in joining us at the IfA, you will have an opportunity to further expand your research endeavors through mutual exchange of research information. As described to you during the interview, the purpose of the program is to participate in NSF and NASA grant research projects that study the fundamental physics of plasmas in heliospheric or astrophysical contexts.

We understand your interest in establishing relationships with other researchers with the intent of collaborating and publishing research findings and Hawai'i is an ideal place to begin. The location of the State of Hawai'i between Asia and the mainland and the state's varied ethnic population will expose you to different cultures and customs. The Research Corporation of the University of Hawai'i (RCUH) Pre-Arrival and Orientation Information for J-1 Exchange Visitors brochure recommended that you view the State of Hawai'i website (<https://portal.ehawaii.gov>) and the Hawai'i Visitors and Convention Bureau website (<https://www.hvcb.org>) for information on activities offered and events scheduled throughout the islands. We also provided the Factbook on the Cost of Living in Hawai'i as reference.

With a diverse population in Hawai'i and at the University of Hawai'i, we feel that you will be comfortable with the work environment here and the opportunity to interact with other members of the scientific community and possibly beyond the islands.

Welcome to the IfA! I am confident that your association with the program will be professionally rewarding and of mutual benefit.

Sincerely,



~~Dr. Colby Haggerty, Principal Investigator~~

NOTE: This is not to be considered an employment contract, nor should it be interpreted to obligate the RCUH to anything beyond an offer of employment. [Please scan/email your acceptance to Debra Hew-Harano at hewharan@hawaii.edu.](mailto:hewharan@hawaii.edu)

I accept your job offer:

06/25/2024

\_\_\_\_\_  
Giulia Murtas

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

cc: Recruitment # 223867 File