



## JOB DESCRIPTION

### **Mechanical Engineer Intern**

The Mechanical Engineer Intern will assist with a project at the Navy Precision Optical Interferometer (NPOI). The specific duties of the intern will be assistance with design, drafting, and implementation of mechanical structures for a NPOI project to implement three 1-meter telescopes at NPOI. The optomechanical structures for linking the light output from the telescopes to NPOI's existing beam transport system will be a primary focus. This position is supervised by Astronomer Gerard van Belle. The Astronomer will ensure the Research Assistant makes adequate progress, but in general the Assistant will work independently. This position is subject to available grant funding.

### **RESPONSIBILITIES**

The Mechanical Engineer Intern is expected to perform original research in astronomy or planetary science with the Astronomer. Specific tasks include creating CAD drawings of optomechanical structures, measurement and evaluation of existing structures, and implementation of new structures as they are manufactured. Supervisors may assign the Mechanical Engineer Intern other related duties as deemed appropriate.

### **QUALIFICATIONS AND EXPECTATIONS**

The Mechanical Engineer Intern should have demonstrated proficiency in use of computers, particularly as it applies to mechanical engineering drafting and design work. Excellent programming skills in software packages agreeable to the Mechanical Engineer Intern and supervisor are essential. Fluency with operating systems and word processing software is required; specific platforms and software systems are to be agreed to by the Mechanical Engineer Intern and Supervisor.

Computer and public speaking skills sufficient to assemble and deliver a research presentation to a professional audience are required.

Periodic consultations and progress reports with supervisors are expected, but in general, this position will work independently once a research project is assigned to them. They must be able to prioritize tasks, set schedules, and complete complex projects on time and within deadlines. Due to the fixed-term nature of research grants from which the Mechanical Engineer Intern will ordinarily be paid, work hours in the evening and on weekends are possible. Occasional work hours from sunset to sunrise will be required as observing runs at telescopes require.

The Mechanical Engineer Intern is expected to reflect the professional and collegial environment the Observatory strives to maintain.

## EXPERIENCE AND EDUCATION

Minimum requirement for this position is an undergraduate degree in mechanical engineering and related areas, or enrollment and pursuit of such a degree. Preference given to mechanical engineering or directly related fields. This person must be experienced with SolidWorks and/or AutoCAD, and have a basic understanding of the Linux or Windows environments

**Compensation Type:** Hourly  
**Status:** Part Time Regular  
**Term:** 2017 Spring Academic with possible extension.  
**Benefit Eligible:** No  
**Location:** Flagstaff, Lowell Observatory's Anderson Mesa Campus  
**FLSA Classification:** Non –Exempt

Please complete an application (<http://lowell.edu/about/employment>) and send it with a resume, letter of interest addressing your qualifications and phone numbers and e-mail addresses of three references to the email address posted on the Lowell Application. Deadline for applications submission is February 8<sup>th</sup>.

Lowell Observatory is an Equal Employment Opportunity/Affirmative Action employer and provides equal employment opportunity to all persons without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, genetic information, disability, veteran status, political beliefs, sexual orientation, and marital and family status.

Lowell Observatory provides reasonable accommodations to applicants with disabilities. This nonsmoking campus is at an elevation of 7,000 ft/2100m. If you need a reasonable accommodation for any part of the application and hiring process, please notify the Human Resources office for assistance.

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