ERES 2021 Career Panel Bios



Megan Shabram received her PhD in Astrophysics at Penn State's Center for Exoplanets and Habitable Worlds in the fall of 2015. She then went on to work as a postdoctoral fellow at NASA Ames Research Center in Silicon Valley for NASA's Kepler Mission. She then felt a calling to work on creating a more regenerative and sustainable planet and found herself working at a small Agricultural Technology start-up in San Francisco CA.



lan Czekala is an assistant professor in the Astronomy and Astrophysics department at Pennsylvania State University (PSU), a Co-Hire with PSU's Institute for Computational and Data Sciences, and a member of PSU's Center for Exoplanets and Habitable Worlds and Center for Astrostatistics. The Czekala group at PSU uses radio interferometers like the Atacama Large Millimeter Array (ALMA) to study protoplanetary disks at high spatial and spectral resolution with the aim of learning about the planet formation process. Prior to joining PSU in fall 2020, Ian did postdoctoral fellowships at the University of California, Berkeley as an NHFP Sagan fellow and at Stanford KIPAC as a Porat Fellow. Ian earned his Ph.D. from Harvard University in 2016 under the tutelage of Sean Andrews.



Dr. Mullally received her Ph.D. in Physics at UNC-Chapel Hill. She started her career as a visiting assistant professor at The Colorado College followed by a role as Associate Director of the Whole Earth Telescope at the University of Delaware. Dr. Mullally then moved to the Kepler Science Office at the NASA Ames Research Center, where she was responsible for the Kepler Spacecraft archive products including vetting of transit signals, and creating exoplanet catalogs for occurrence rate studies. Recently she moved to the Space Telescope Science Institute (STScI) in Baltimore to work as a scientist for the MAST archive. She is currently the JWST Deputy Project Scientist at STScI.