

# WEBINAR SERIES #2

Starting in 5-10 minutes!

**How to get research  
internships  
by Rebecca Latto**



# My background



Bachelor of Science in  
Applied Physics



# My background



## Bachelor of Science in Applied Physics





# My background in research internships



## Intern

NASA - National Aeronautics and Space Administration

Jun 2013 – Aug 2014 · 1 yr 3 mos

New York, New York

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## Student Research Assistant

NASA - National Aeronautics and Space Administration

Oct 2016 – May 2019 · 2 yrs 8 mos

New York, NY

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## Research Assistant

Simon Fraser University

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## Research Intern

University of Tasmania

Sep 2019 – Present · 2 mos

Tasmania, Australia



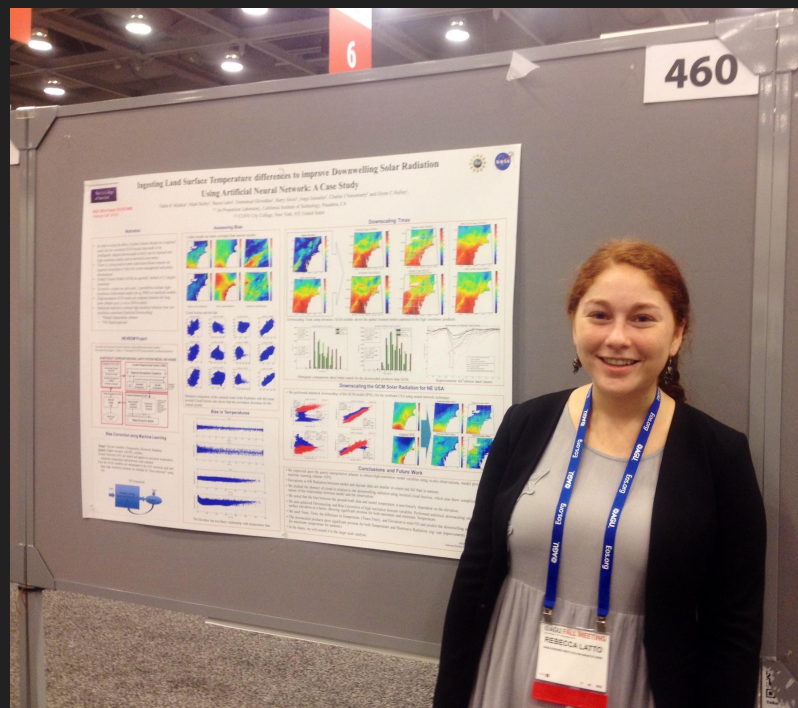
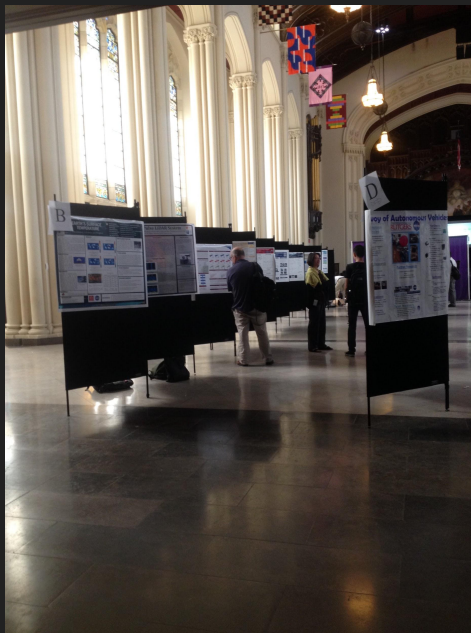
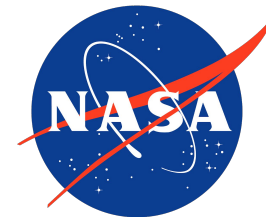


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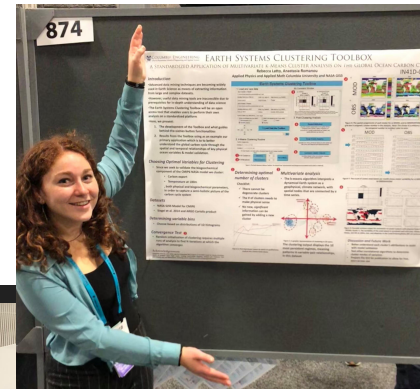
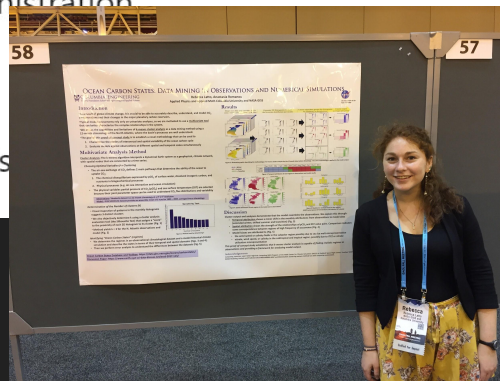
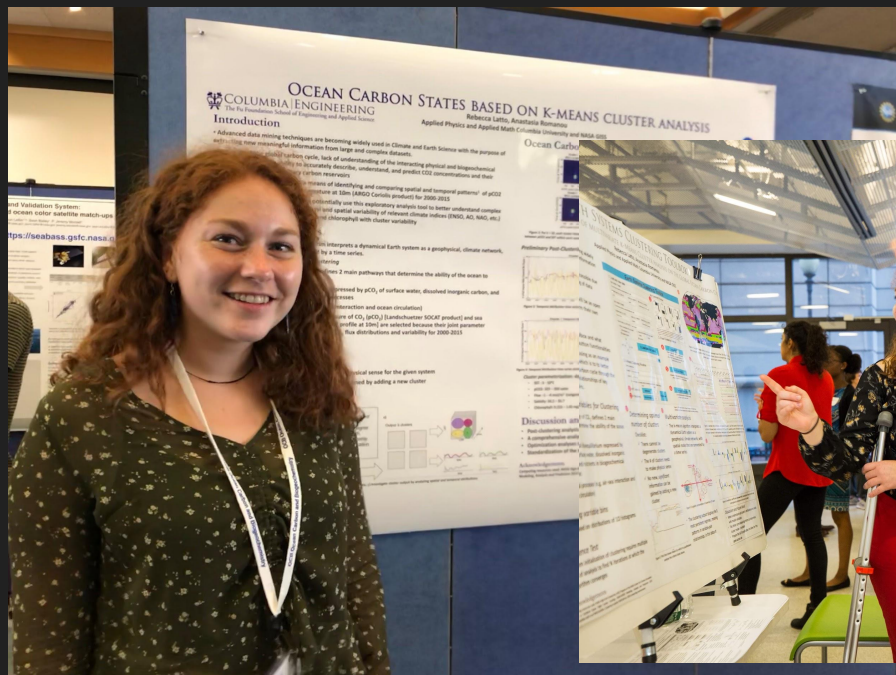
## Student Research Assistant

NASA - National Aeronautics and Space Administration

Oct 2016 – May 2019 · 2 yrs 8 mos

New York, NY

Conduct climate research using cluster analysis







**Research Assistant**  
Simon Fraser University  
Jun 2019 – Aug 2019 · 3 mos  
Vancouver, Canada Area







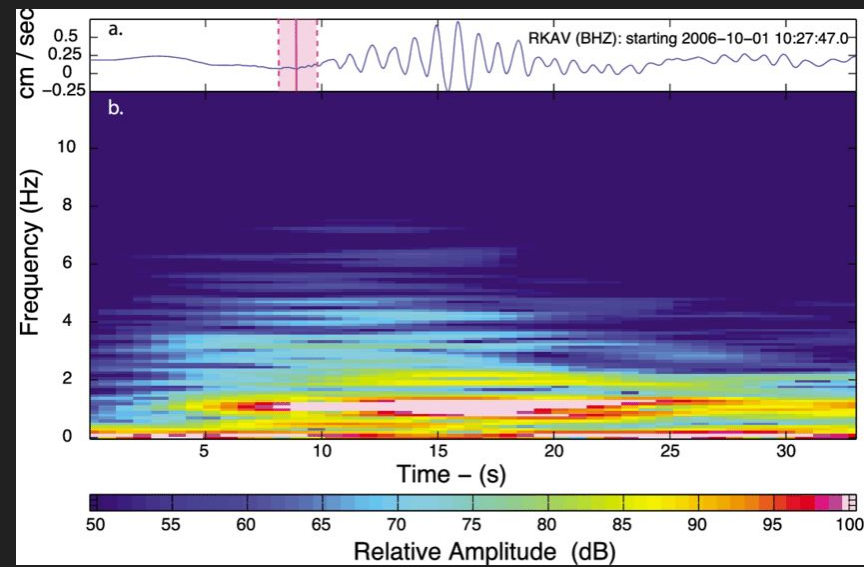
## Research Intern

University of Tasmania

Sep 2019 – Present · 2 mos

Tasmania, Australia







## Project Intern

The Skyscraper Museum

May 2016 – May 2017 · 1 yr 1 mo

New York, NY

Assist with family programs when children come to the museum every other Saturday to learn about our exhibit and do activities, lead museum tours, conduct research for architecture papers, and handle front office work like booking tours, organizing, and answering phones.

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## Office Assistant

Le Fat Poodle and Le Penguin

May 2015 – Aug 2015 · 4 mos

Handled phone and online reservations, calculated tip distribution and payroll, and organized invoices.



Building your  
personal research  
“brand”

Getting  
research  
101

Knowing  
where to  
look

Networking

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Rebecca Latto

Research Intern at University of Tasmania

New York, New York · 192 connections · Contact info



University of Tasmania



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Affiliation

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Columbia University



Location New York City, United States

Department Department of Applied Physics and Applied Mathematics

Position Student Research Assistant at NASA GISS

Rebecca Latto

## EDUCATION

**Columbia University**, Fu Foundation School of Engineering and Applied Science, New York, NY.  
Bachelor of Science in Applied Physics, focus in Earth and Atmospheric Sciences, **Graduation May 2019**.  
*Coding experience:* MATLAB; Unix programming; Java; Python; Fortran; Perl; HTML; Javascript; CSS  
*Relevant coursework:* Glaciology; Solid Earth Dynamics; Chem. & Phys. Oceanography; Deformation; Death Valley

## WORK AND LEADERSHIP EXPERIENCE

### NASA

#### Goddard Institute for Space Studies

Student Research Assistant, New York, NY (Fall 2016 – present) [20h/wk acad. yr./full time summers]

- Investigate the advantages of machine learning and cluster analysis as means of resolving complex patterns in big data in order to study the ocean carbon cycle and other complex nonlinear Earth systems.
- Perform model diagnostics on the GISS Earth System Model to prepare for CMIP6 production.
- Constructed a toolbox to facilitate the standardization of cluster analysis on any Earth Science field.
- Shared and articulated research goals at over 10 oral and poster presentations at Earth Science conferences, data science symposiums, and early career scientist showcases, including AGU, Ocean Sciences, and Data Science Day.
- **Latto, R.** and Romanou, A., 2018. The "Ocean Carbon States" Database: A proof-of-concept application of cluster analysis in the ocean carbon cycle. *Earth Syst. Sci. Data*, <https://doi.org/10.5194/essd-10-609-2018>.

#### Columbia Spectra: Society for Diversity & Inclusion in Physics, President (2018-present), Coordinator (2017-18)

- Expanded Columbia's Society for Women in Physics to include all underrepresented minorities in physics.
- Built a student board of Graduate and Undergraduate Chairs.
- Increased club membership from 10 to 80 official club members from each of Columbia's schools from a wide array of physics and engineering undergraduate and graduate programs.
- Constructed a new, easy-to-use website to improve communication of events and share available resources.
- Wrote grants to increase funding: Gained Activities Board at Columbia recognition and access to \$1000 of funding (2018); Awarded American Physical Society Women in Physics Group Grant for \$1000 (2018)
- Coordinator of activities and outreach events for underrepresented groups in physics to foster a community.
- Assembled a list of faculty and professional advisers at Columbia and in the NYC area for club member outreach.
- Streamlined communication between administration and student body to better resolve existing problems.

#### Society for Physics Students, Secretary (2017-present)

- Correspond weekly with club members to inform about events and meetings on campus.

#### American Museum of Natural History, Sleepover Volunteer, New York, NY (Spring 2018-present)

- Lead craft activities in the Hayden Planetarium with NYC children ages 3-12 and informal tours for adult sleepovers.

#### Reading Math Team, Tutor (2017-2018)

- Tutored weekly in a Harlem-based math afterschool program for kindergarteners.

#### The Skyscraper Museum, Project Intern, New York, NY (May 2016 – Mar 2017)

- Led museum tours and family programs, conducted research, and handled front office work.

“A resume is a marketing document and a concise, tailored summary of your experience, education, and skills. A CV is a complete record of your academic and professional achievements, typically used for positions in academia.”

<https://www.careereducation.columbia.edu/topics/resumes-cvs>

## EDUCATION

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 Bachelor of Science in Applied Physics, focus in Earth and Atmospheric Sciences, Graduation May 2019.  
*Coding experience:* MATLAB; Unix programming; Java; Python; Fortran; Perl; HTML; Javascript; CSS; R.

## AREAS OF RESEARCH INTEREST

Applying techniques such as machine learning, pattern recognition, data mining, and other advanced statistical methods to better understand big data of complex and nonlinear geophysical systems such as the ocean carbon cycle and the cryosphere.

## RESEARCH AND WORK EXPERIENCE

Institute for Marine & Antarctic Studies, Visiting Research Student, Hobart, TAS, Australia (*Sept – Dec 2019*)

- Study snow densification using seismic wave speeds to better understand physical processes
- Perform machine learning on glacier signals as means of parsing dynamical systems by their primary modes.

Simon Fraser University, Visiting Research Student, Vancouver, BC, Canada (*June – Sept 2019*)

- Studied the contributions of climate versus internal dynamics to observed glacier thickness changes in the St. Elias Mountains of Yukon over the last decade using ice-penetrating radar data and observational surface velocity fields to construct “measured” flux profiles through flux gates to compare with balance fluxes.
- Facilitated with fieldwork in Yukon to obtain sub/englacial data using ground and ice penetrating radar systems.

NASA Goddard Institute for Space Studies, Research Assistant, New York, NY, USA (*Fall 2016 – May 2019*)

- Worked 20h/week in the academic yr. and 35h/week in summers.
- Investigated the advantages of machine learning and cluster analysis as means of resolving complex patterns in big data in order to study the ocean carbon cycle and other complex nonlinear Earth systems.
- Performed model diagnostics on the GISS Earth System Model to prepare for CMP6 production.
- Constructed a toolbox to facilitate the standardization of cluster analysis on any Earth Science field.
- Shared and articulated research goals at over 10 oral and poster presentations at Earth Science conferences, data science symposiums, and early career scientist showcases.

## LEADERSHIP AND SERVICE

Wilderness Society of Tasmania Stall Helper at Salamanca Market, Hobart, Tasmania (*Fall 2019–present*)

- Share information on active campaigns to protect forests and wildlife in Tasmania.

Columbia Spectra: Society for Diversity & Inclusion in Physics, President (*2018–2019*), Coordinator (*17–18*)

- Expanded Columbia’s Society for Women in Physics to include all underrepresented minorities in physics.
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## PUBLICATIONS

Latto, R. and Romanou, A., 2018: The “Ocean Carbon States” Database: A proof-of-concept application of cluster analysis in the ocean carbon cycle. *Earth Syst. Sci. Data*, <https://doi.org/10.5194/essd-10-609-2018>.

## PRESENTATIONS

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Latto, R., Romanou, A. “The Ocean Carbon States Database: multivariate application of cluster analysis on the ocean.” Poster presentation at the Conference for Undergraduate Women in Physics, Jan. 2019.

Latto, R., Romanou, A. “The Ocean Carbon States Database: multivariate application of cluster analysis on the ocean carbon cycle.” Poster presentation at AGU Fall Meeting, Dec. 2018.

Latto, R. (primary convener), Romanou, A., Landschuetzer, P., Telszewski, M., Gregor, L. “Novel data analysis techniques for big data applications in marine science.” Poster session for AGU Fall Meeting, Dec. 2018.

Latto, R., Romanou, A. “Earth Systems Clustering Toolbox: A Standardized Application of Multivariate k-Means Cluster Analysis on the Global Ocean Carbon Cycle.” Poster at Columbia Summer Research Symposium, Oct. 2018.

Latto, R., Romanou, A. “Ocean Carbon States Based On K-Means Cluster Analysis”. Poster presentation at Ocean Carbon and Biogeochemistry Summer Workshop, June 25–28 2018.

Latto, R. “Understanding the Ocean Carbon Cycle using The k-Means Cluster Analysis Toolbox”. Peer reviewed for AGU Virtual Poster Showcase, Apr. 2018.

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Latto, R., Romanou, A. “The Ocean Carbon States Database and Toolbox: Data Mining and Pattern Recognition in Observations and Numerical Simulations of the Ocean Carbon Cycle” Oral presentation in Visualization, Statistics, and Model Validation of Big Data for Oceanography at AGU Ocean Sciences, Feb. 2018.

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Latto, R. “Ocean Carbon States: How to Extract Physically Meaningful Information from Earth System Model Output”. Oral presentation at LDEO Data Science Symposium, Mar. 2017.

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Malakar, N., Bailey, M., Latto, R., Hulley, G., et al., “Ingesting Land Surface Temperature Differences to Improve Downwelling Solar Radiation Using ANN: A Case Study.” Presented at AGU Fall Meeting, Dec. 2014.

Cordero, L., Malakar, N., Vidal, D., Latto, R., Gross, B., Moshary, F., et al., “A Regional Neural Network estimator of PM2.5 using satellite AOD and WRF meteorology measurements.” in AMS, Atlanta, GA, USA, 2014.

## RELEVANT COURSEWORK

Courses: Crustal Deformation; Physical and Chemical Oceanography; Solid Earth Dynamics; Ordinary and Partial Differential Equations; Earth & Environmental Engineering Lab; Glaciology; fieldwork program in undergraduate studies to study geophysics and geology in Death Valley, California (*Spring, 2017*).



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Knowing where to look

# 1st step: Universities in your area

- Find seminar schedules online
- Meet with professors
- Check online opportunities on the university website
- Ask around to see if anyone needs summer lab assistants, research hands, etc





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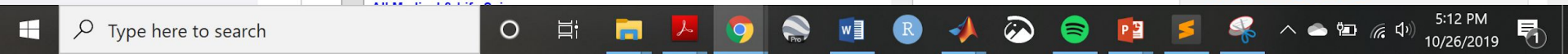
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[NASA One Stop Shop Initiative](#)

[Pathways to Engineering](#)

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## Opportunities

If you are interested in graduate studies and your research interests lie within the scope of the current [research program](#), please send an e-mail inquiry to Dr. [redacted] [redacted] and include your CV and transcripts. Inquiries are welcomed from students of a variety of science backgrounds, including earth sciences, physics, applied mathematics and engineering. Prospective students must have at least the equivalent of university-level calculus and physics. For more information about applying, see [Graduate Program](#).



Type here to search



5:12 PM  
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# Email listservs

**Polar Cluster Tenure-Track Faculty: 3 Positions Available at University of Wisconsin-Madison and 3+ new jobs on AGU Pathfinder Career Centre** > Inbox x

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to me ▾ 1:31 PM (4 hours ago) ☆ ↶

**AGU PATHFINDER CAREER CENTER**

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Savannah, Georgia

The Univ. of Georgia, Skidaway Institute invites applications for the following faculty positions in the areas of Biological Oceanography, Chemical Oceanography, and Physical Oceanography. For more information, visit [http://www.skidaway.edu/employment](#) or contact the Skidaway Institute of Oceanography Human Resources Department at [hr@skidaway.edu](mailto:hr@skidaway.edu).  
If you are interested in these positions, please send your resume and cover letter to [hr@skidaway.edu](mailto:hr@skidaway.edu).  
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to me ▾ Fri, Oct 25, 9:05 AM (1 day ago) ☆ ↶

**Handshake**

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**Environmental Engineer/Industrial Hygienist**  
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Knowing where to look

Networking

# Networking = talking to people who can help you do what you want to do

- Emailing professors/ scientists who are in positions you want to be in one day!
- Talking to students (like me and Albert!) because we know who you should reach out to/ can help you along your path!

- *Hi Dr. \_\_\_\_\_, My name is Becca and I am in Grade 10 at \_\_\_\_\_ school, beginning to think about my next steps. I found your email on the university site while looking for research in \_\_\_\_\_, and I was really interested in your work with \_\_\_\_\_. Are you available to meet sometime next week, anytime after \_\_\_\_\_, to discuss your research and any advice you might have?*

*Thank you for your time!*

- *Hi Becca! I really really enjoyed your presentation!! I'm very interested in glacier physics! Blah blah blahhhhhh*



# Have interests outside of research!!!

- ❖ Clubs (e.g. Spectra, Kelas Daring IELTS 2019 - NTT)
- ❖ Hobbies!
- ❖ Community service



# Questions?



How to reach me:

Email- [RL2797@columbia.edu](mailto:RL2797@columbia.edu)

Feel free to ask for my resume, CV templates, past emails I've sent to professors, etc! :)