

RENATA R. LAFLER

geologyrenata@gmail.com

Education and Honors

➤ University of Arizona, Tucson, Arizona

Master of Science, Geoscience, May 2009

Mineralogy with emphasis in spectroscopy

Certificate in College Teaching

Overall GPA: 3.86/4.0

Awarded over \$35,000 in merit-based academic scholarships

- ConocoPhillips Scholarship, University of Arizona (2009)
- American Federation of Mineralogical Societies Scholarship (2008)
- Israel Diamond Institute Scholarship (2007-'08)
- Graduate Fellowship, University of Arizona (2007-'09)

➤ Gemological Institute of America, Carlsbad, California

Graduate Diamonds Diploma, July 2008

➤ St. Norbert College, De Pere, Wisconsin

Bachelor of Science, Geology, May 2007

Overall GPA: 3.52/4.0; Cum Laude

Awarded over \$28,000 in merit-based academic scholarships

- St. Norbert College Student/Faculty Research Grant (2005)
- St. Norbert College Distinguished Trustee Scholar (2003-'07)

Study Abroad Program, Christchurch, New Zealand, February-July 2006

Awards & Honors

Outstanding Teaching Award, University of Arizona (2008-'09)

St. Norbert College Geology Award (2006-2007)

Outstanding Field Geologist Award (2005-2006)

St. Norbert College Student/Faculty Research Grant (2005)

Service

Volunteer Curatorial Assistant, Sonoran Desert Museum, Tucson, AZ; Geosciences (July 2008-present). Organize, label, and catalog mineral samples. Develop mineral displays. Promote public education, including participation in special events like "Mineral Madness".

GEAR-UP speaker, give presentations to at-risk high school students about the importance of education in Math and Science; University of Arizona, Tucson, AZ

Employment Experience

RRUFF Lab, University of Arizona

August 2007 - August 2008

Research Assistant and Lab Technician

- Collect, analyze, trim, correct, and post Raman spectra of minerals on the RRUFF online database (www.rruff.info) for research and identification purposes. Prepare samples for single crystal X-ray diffraction analysis.

Operational Familiarity

- Raman spectrometers: Thermo Nicolet Almega microRaman, Jobin Yvon Spex HR 460
- X-ray diffractometers: Bruker D8 Advance (powder), Bruker X8 Apex (single crystal)
- FTIR: Thermo Nicolet Nexus 6700 with diffuse reflectance accessory
- UV-NIR absorption spectrometers

Software

- Microsoft Office, CrystalSleuth, XtalDraw, CellTran, WINSPEC, OMNIC, XPOW, Shellxs/xl, Adobe PhotoShop

Department of Geosciences, University of Arizona

August 2007 – May 2009

Teaching Assistant

- Develop learner-centered introductory geology lab curricula including lesson plans, coursework, and assessment methods. Instruct weekly lab sections, lead review sessions and field trips, and evaluate student progress. Courses include: NATS 104: Life on Earth, GEOS 216: Dinosaurs, GEOS 306: Mineralogy, GEOS 251: Physical Geology.

Geology Department, St. Norbert College

August 2005 - May 2007

Head Teaching Assistant

- Delegate duties and tasks to all TA's in the department. Facilitate communication between students and professors. Assist professor and students during introductory and advanced geology courses/labs. Prepare and organize lab activities and materials.

Presentations & Publications

Raman Spectra Analysis of Gem Minerals (thesis presentation), Geodaze Symposium, University of Arizona, April 2009

Jasinevicius, R. (2009) Characterization of vibrational and electronic features in the Raman spectra of gemstones (MS thesis, unpublished).

Lowry, S., Wiebolt, D., Dalrymple, D., **Jasinevicius, R.**, and Downs, R. T. (2009) The use of a Raman spectral database of minerals for the rapid verification of semiprecious gemstones, *Spectroscopy Magazine*.

Jasinevicius, R. (maiden name) and Gordon, E. (2007) Paleoenvironmental interpretation of a lower Paleozoic stromatolite reef, northeastern Wisconsin, (presentation), Institute on Lake Superior Geology, Lutsen, MN