



Elizabeth MARTÍNEZ GÓMEZ

Home Country
Mexico

Degree
Post-Doctorate in
Astrostatistics

Expertise
Astronomy

Research Focus
Planetary Sciences
and Application of
Statistics to
Astronomy and
Astrophysics

Host University
The Pennsylvania
State University,
United States

Fellowship Awarded
2008

Elizabeth Martínez Gómez is from Mexico City and lived there with her parents and her brother until she took a post-doctoral position at Penn State University. Her parents are retired and her brother is a sports journalist who works in print media in Mexico. She enjoys traveling and meeting new people along with cooking, walking and watching soccer games.

Elizabeth began her academic career in the School of Sciences at the National Autonomous University of Mexico (UNAM), where she obtained her bachelor degree in physics in 2001, and her masters degree in 2003. She received a diploma in applied statistics in 2005, a doctorate in space physics in 2007, and a diploma in econometrics in 2009, all at the same university.

After starting her post-doctoral research at the Institute of Astronomy at UNAM, she is now continuing it in the Center of Astrostatistics at The Pennsylvania State University in the United States. As a researcher, Elizabeth has wide-ranging interests, from solid state physics to computing and statistics. Her main research focuses on the application of statistical methodologies to problems in Astronomy and Astrophysics.

At the Center of Astrostatistics she is learning advanced statistical methods and applying them to several problems. For example, she is analyzing the relationship between exoplanets and their host stars because it is important to find suitable constraints for planet-formation models.

Elizabeth has attended numerous national and international conferences, and in 2010 she was distinguished as a candidate of the Sistema Nacional de Investigadores (SNI) in her home country. This organization recognizes work done by scientists in a Mexican institution.

Elizabeth has taught many courses in the undergraduate and graduate levels at her home institution, the National Autonomous University of Mexico, and she intends to return to teaching and doing research there. One of her dreams is to create an Astrostatistics group, which would be the first of its type.