

20 February 2008

Macelwane Medal Committee
c/o American Geophysical Union
2000 Florida Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20009

Dear Committee Members:

I am delighted to support the nomination of Robyn Millan for the AGU James B. Macelwane Medal. She is a gifted scientist, and the broad range of her contributions to space plasma physics is unique for young scientist, at least in recent years. Most remarkable perhaps are her accomplishments as an experimentalist, and being selected as a PI of a Mission of Opportunity, submitted as part of the RBSP AO, is truly extraordinary. I believe that Robyn Millan is the epitome of young scientist deserving the award of a Macelwane Medal.

I clearly remember when I first met Robyn. She was standing at a Poster at the Fall AGU Meeting with another student, the late Kirsten Lorentzen. Their poster dealt with balloon observations of x-rays resulting from energetic electron precipitation. Their work was of special interest to me but what most struck me was their depth of knowledge and enthusiasm for their experimental research. Posters usually do not make a lasting impression but the mental note I made at the time was not forgotten – either or both of those young women would make ideal new staff members.

I have followed Robyn's work closely since that time because her research continues to be closely related to interests of mine. My first impression has not changed; Robyn is an exceptional young researcher, and I am sure she will make significant contributions to space plasma physics for decades. Robyn certainly deserves the award of a Macelwane Medal.

Sincerely,



John Bernard Blake
Space Sciences Department
The Aerospace Corporation