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UW Astronomy Dept
2548 Sterling Hall
Madison, WI 53706

Dear Professor Stanimirovic:

I am applying for your advertised position as a postdoctoral research associate at the Department of Astronomy, UW Madison. My curriculum vitae, a bibliography, and a statement of my research interests are enclosed for your review. I would appreciate your consideration for this job opening as my studies of the detailed properties of Galactic center molecular clouds and their resulting star formation, as well as my extensive radio and millimeter observing experience are an ideal match for this position.

I am currently leading multiple research projects including the detection and characterization of a widespread, hot component of molecular gas in the Galactic center using the Green Bank telescope, and a new high-resolution survey of Galactic center gas using the Very Large Array, which will yield the first resolved temperature maps of Galactic center molecular clouds. I propose to expand on these projects by undertaking complementary surveys with the VLA and the Atacama Large Millimeter Array to study the density structure of Galactic center clouds. Together with my existing work, this will allow me to study the physical processes which cause gas conditions in the Galactic center to be different than those in the Galactic disk, and to constrain the initial conditions of Galactic center star formation. As a postdoctoral researcher, I plan to continue to lead independent research projects using cutting-edge, open-access facilities including the GBT, VLA and ALMA.

Sincerely,

Elisabeth Mills