

Zachary J. Fifer

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A University graduate of Mathematics and Physics, seeking a position as an instructor in either of those subjects.

Education

- **The Pennsylvania State University**, Graduated August, 2009. Honors BS in Physics, and concurrent major in Mathematics. Cum GPA: 3.69 / 4.00
- Completed relevant courses in mechanics, E & M, acoustics, electronics, biological physics, numerical analysis, real and complex analysis, and linear algebra.

Relevant Experience

-Spent one year as an English language instructor in public schools around Andong, South Korea

- *Followed set curriculum and created customized lesson plans*
- *Majority of teaching was done without assistance*
- *Lived and worked in a culture vastly different than native culture; got along very well*

-Conducted research on the electrocaloric material PMN-PT under Dr. Julian Maynard, Penn State Distinguished Professor of Physics

- *Physics Honors Thesis: A Review of the Electrocaloric Effect in PMN-xPT ceramics*

-Completed one semester abroad, studying physics in Ankara, Turkey; Spring 2007

-Lived and worked on Fifer LLC dairy farm, from young age until Fall 2004

- *Gained valuable experience working with hand-tools, power-tools, and large machinery*
- *Gained experience working with other people*

Awards and Honors

- Pennsylvania State University Schreyer Honors Scholar
- *Sigma Pi Sigma* member. ($\Pi\Sigma\Pi$) is a physics honors society which exists to celebrate academic achievement and promote service and fellowship in the physics community
- President's Freshman Award. Awarded to students achieving a 4.0 GPA in their first semester at Penn State

Interests and Activities

- PSU Society of Physics Students (SPS) member & vice president (2008-2009 school year); spearheaded outreach projects integrating physics and the arts
- Cycling and distance cycling (longest trip to date: State College, PA to Lake Wallenpaupack PA and back again; round trip, over 500 km.)