

Reflections on DESI construction from early career scientists

- 2012: Joined the project as a PostDoc, 2014: Lead Fiber scientist (L2 manager), 2020: DESI observing operations lead and lead observer(L2 manager)
- DESI is the most powerful redshift survey instrument ever built
 - Significant early investment in R&D.
 - Every design decision was optimized resulting in throughput equivalent to 10m-class telescopes and incredible point-spread function stability



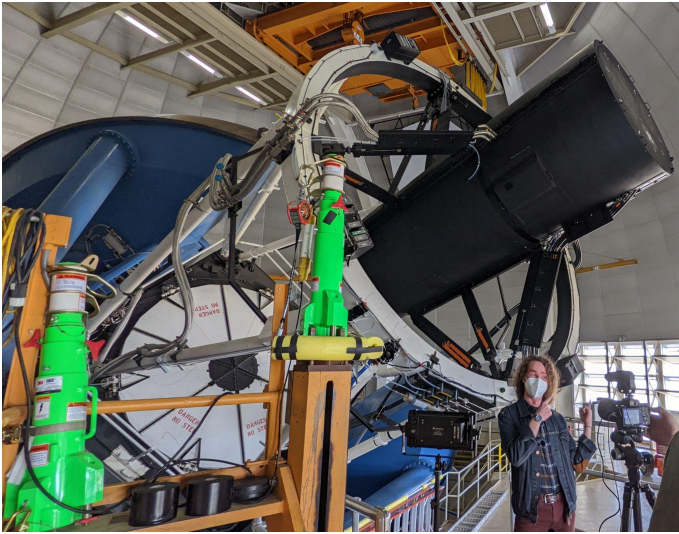
“ I strongly believe that the future of Cosmology relies on training and retaining instrument builders like me who rely on the prospect of future world-class survey instruments”



Dark Energy Spectroscopic Instrument

U.S. Department of Energy Office of Science
Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory

DESI is powerful because of the investment in both early R&D and in people

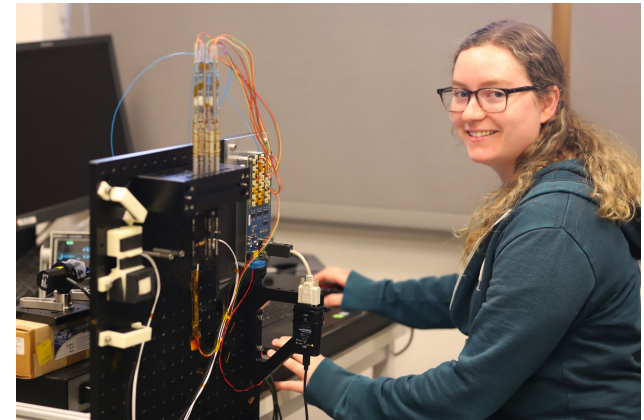


Kevin Fanning | Ohio State | Graduating 2023

“Much of my training as a scientist has been through working on DESI construction, commissioning and early analysis of data. Following the development of a project in one's early career is a unique and formative experience. Similar opportunities for early career scientists to involve themselves with developing projects should continue to be cultivated within the community for future projects.”

Abby Bault | UC Irvine | 5th year PhD

“Being involved in DESI throughout my years as a grad student has afforded me unique opportunities to become a more well-rounded scientist. I have been able to work hands-on with the robotic fiber positioners and continue to do science during my PhD. I believe these different experiences are essential for success as a grad student, and am excited to see what opportunities lie ahead.”



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