

# Thea Kozakis

ASTROPHYSICIST · ASTROBIOLOGIST

Carl Sagan Institute, Cornell University, Ithaca, New York, USA

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*“Imagination will often carry us to worlds that never were, but without it we go nowhere.” - Carl Sagan*

## Education

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### PhD Astrophysics

CARL SAGAN INSTITUTE, CORNELL UNIVERSITY

- Advisor: Lisa Kaltenegger
- Thesis: Stellar UV Environments and Planetary Habitability Throughout Stellar Evolution

Ithaca, New York, USA

Expected 2019

### MS Astrophysics

CARL SAGAN INSTITUTE, CORNELL UNIVERSITY

- Advisor: Lisa Kaltenegger
- Funded by New York Space Grant

Ithaca, New York, USA

May 2016\*

\*medical exemption granted from the University for the 2015-2016 academic year

### BS Astrophysics, BS Physics

COLLEGE OF CHARLESTON

- Advisor: Joseph Carson
- Thesis: Directly Imaging Planets Around High-Mass Stars

Charleston, South Carolina, USA

May 2013

## Academic Honors & Grants

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2016	<b>Eleanor York Prize</b> , Astronomy and Space Sciences Department	Cornell University
2015	<b>Exemplary Poster Award</b> , Emerging Researchers in Exoplanet Science Symposium	Pennsylvania State University
2013-2014	<b>NASA New York Space Grant</b> , NASA New York Space Grant Consortium	Cornell University
2014, 2015	<b>NSF Graduate Fellowship Honorable Mention</b> , National Science Foundation	Cornell University
2013	<b>Outstanding Undergraduate Research Award</b> , South Carolina Academy of Science	College of Charleston
2013	<b>Department Honors Award</b> , Department of Physics & Astronomy	College of Charleston
2013	<b>Outstanding Student Award</b> , School of Sciences and Mathematics	College of Charleston
2012	<b>Major Academic Year Support Grant</b> , School of Sciences and Mathematics	College of Charleston
2012	<b>Summer Undergraduate Research with Faculty Grant</b> , School of Sciences and Mathematics	College of Charleston
2012	<b>Goldwater Scholarship Honorable Mention</b> , Scholarship & Excellence in Education Foundation	College of Charleston

## Presentations

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### Life After (Stellar) Death: Habitability Around White Dwarfs

PLANETARY LUNCH TALK SERIES, talk

Cornell University, Ithaca, NY, USA

August 2018

### Dying to Live: Post-Main Sequence Habitability

GRADUATE STUDENT/POST-DOCTORATE SEMINAR talk

Cornell University, Ithaca, NY, USA

August 2018

### Atmospheres and UV Ground Environment for Planets Orbiting Red Giants

COOL STARS 20, POSTER

Boston, Massachusetts, USA

August 2018

<b>UV Surface Environments and Atmospheres of Earth-like Planets Orbiting White Dwarfs</b> Invited talk	University of St Andrews, St Andrews, UK July 2018
<b>UV Surface Environments and Atmospheres of Earth-like Planets Orbiting White Dwarfs</b> Invited talk	University of Edinburgh, Edinburgh, UK July 2018
<b>UV Surface Environments and Atmospheres of Earth-like Planets Orbiting White Dwarfs</b> EXOPLANETS II poster	Cambridge University, Cambridge, UK July 2018
<b>Do You Believe in Life After (Stellar) Death?: White Dwarf Habitability</b> GRADUATE STUDENT/POST DOCTORATE SEMINAR talk	Cornell University, Ithaca, NY, USA June 2018
<b>Atmospheres and UV Ground Environment for Planets Orbiting Red Giants</b> EMERGING RESEARCHERS IN EXOPLANET SCIENCE SYMPOSIUM poster	Pennsylvania State University, State College, Pennsylvania, USA June 2018
<b>Biosignatures and UV Environments of Earth-Like Planets Orbiting White Dwarfs</b> EMERGING RESEARCHERS IN EXOPLANET SCIENCE SYMPOSIUM talk	Pennsylvania State University, State College, Pennsylvania, USA June 2017
<b>Biosignatures and UV Environments of Earth-Like Planets Orbiting White Dwarfs</b> ASTROBIOLOGY GRADUATE CONFERENCE talk	Charlottesville, VA, USA June 2017
<b>Biosignatures and UV Environments of Earth-Like Planets Orbiting White Dwarfs</b> ASTROBIOLOGY SCIENCE CONFERENCE poster	Mesa, AZ, USA April 2017
<b>Age Rotation-Activity Relationship of Kepler Field Stars</b> ASTROBIOLOGY SCIENCE CONFERENCE poster	Chicago, IL, USA June 2015
<b>Age Rotation-Activity Relationship of Kepler Field Stars</b> EMERGING RESEARCHERS IN EXOPLANET SCIENCE SYMPOSIUM poster	Pennsylvania State University, State College, Pennsylvania, USA May 2015
<b>Direct Imaging Discovery of a ‘Super-Jupiter’ Around a Late B-Type Star</b> SOUTH CAROLINA ACADEMY OF SCIENCE CONFERENCE poster	Columbia, South Carolina, USA April 2013
<b>Direct Imaging Discovery of a ‘Super-Jupiter’ Around a Late B-Type Star</b> SOUTH CAROLINA ACADEMY OF SCIENCE CONFERENCE talk	Columbia, South Carolina, USA April 2013
<b>The Subaru SEEDS Imaging Search for Exoplanets Around High-Mass Stars</b> AAS WINTER MEETING poster	Long Beach, California, USA January 2013
<b>The Subaru SEEDS Imaging Search for Exoplanets Around High-Mass Stars</b> AAS WINTER MEETING poster	Austin, TX, USA January 2012

## Outreach

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<b>Expanding Your Horizons</b> WORKSHOP DESIGNER/ORGANIZER	Cornell University, Ithaca, NY, USA 2015-present
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Yearly outreach event attended by middle school girls from New York to learn about the different STEM fields</li> <li>Part of the original astronomy workshop design team, team leader for the past 2 years</li> <li>Wrote yearly applications for event approval, recruit/train volunteers and run event</li> </ul>	
<b>Mental Health Counselor Training (EARS)</b> CERTIFIED MENTAL HEALTH COUNSELOR/TRAINER	Ithaca, NY, USA 2015-present
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Semester long training offered by EARS (Empathy Assistance and Referral Service), a walk-in mental health counseling program</li> <li>Give presentations on empathetic listening and communication skills to Cornell students of all levels</li> <li>Small group teaching of Cornell graduate students and post doctoral researchers skills of mental health counseling</li> </ul>	

## Museum in the Dark

Ithaca, NY, USA

ORGANIZER

2014-2017

- Halloween-themed outreach event at a local museum with astronomy related demos
- Liaison between the museum and the astronomy department
- Recruited/trained volunteers to run science demos and obtained/organized all materials for the event

## 4-H Focus for Teens Workshop

Cornell University, Ithaca, NY, USA

ORGANIZER

2014-2017

- Summer outreach event for high school students in the New York 4-H program to attend STEM related workshops
- Helped design/modify the 3 day workshop
- Recruited/trained graduate student volunteers

## Astronomy Graduate Network

Cornell University, Ithaca, NY, USA

FALL 2014 - SPRING 2015 (VICE PRESIDENT), FALL 2015 - SPRING 2016 (TREASURER)

2013-present

- Organized meetings and events of AGN to foster community in the astronomy department
- Handled organization finances and wrote yearly budgets
- Part of Cornell's Ask an Astronomer Team answering weekly questions from the general public
- Volunteered at local schools to teach about careers in astronomy and STEM

# Teaching

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## Teaching Assistant: From New Worlds to Black Holes

Cornell University, Ithaca, NY, USA

LECTURER: DR LISA KALTENEGGER

Fall 2018

- Introductory astronomy class focusing on the Universe as a whole
- Assisted in writing and grading homework assignments and exams
- Taught recitation sections and held office hours

## Head Teaching Assistant: From New Worlds to Black Holes

Cornell University, Ithaca, NY, USA

LECTURER: DR LISA KALTENEGGER

Fall 2015

- Introductory astronomy class focusing on the Universe as a whole
- Organized other TAs, managed course website, and dealt with logistical issues
- Assisted in writing and grading homework assignments and exams
- Taught recitation sections and held office hours

## Teaching Assistant: Our Solar System

Cornell University, Ithaca, NY, USA

LECTURERS: DRs STEVE SQUYRES AND PHIL NICHOLSON

Spring 2015

- Introductory astronomy class focusing on the Solar System
- Taught recitation sections and lab sections and held office hours
- Assisted in writing and grading homework assignments and exams

## Teaching Assistant: A Spacecraft Tour of the Solar System: Science, Policy and Exploration

Cornell University, Ithaca, NY, USA

LECTURER: DRs ALEXANDER HAYES

Fall 2014

- Writing class focused on exploration of the Solar System
- Assisted in teaching students how to write popular science articles
- Graded written work and gave feedback and held office hours
- Managed course website

## Physics Lab Manager's Assistant

College of Charleston, SC USA

LAB MANAGER: KATHLEEN LOW

Fall 2009-Spring 2013

- Helped prepare equipment for physics labs and assist lab instructors
- Organized lab materials and equipment
- Held office hours for students in introductory physics classes

# Publications

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*UV Surface Environments and Atmospheres of Earth-like Planets Orbiting White Dwarfs*, **T. Kozakis**, L. Kaltenecker, & D.W. Hoard. 2018, ApJ, 862, 69

*Planet Hunters X. KIC 8462852: Where's the flux?*, T. Boyajian, ... **T. Kozakis**, +47 co-authors 2016, MNRAS

*Direct Imaging Discovery of a 'Super-Jupiter' Around the late B-Type Star  $\kappa$  And*, J. Carson, C. Thalmann, M. Janson, **T. Kozakis**, +52 co-authors, 2013, Astrophysical Journal Letters, 763, 32