

Nicholas Saunders

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EDUCATION	University of Washington, Seattle, WA Sept 2013 – <ul style="list-style-type: none">— B.S. Astronomy and Comprehensive Physics – <i>Honors in Astronomy</i>— B.A. Comparative Literature: Cinema Studies— Astronomy GPA: 3.7/4.0 Comparative Literature GPA: 3.9/4.0
RELEVANT SKILLS	Data reduction and photometric analysis using IRAF and PyRAF; programming with python, java, Mathematica, L ^A T _E X; public presentation of astronomy and physics
RESEARCH EXPERIENCE	LSST Citizen Science, Student Researcher June 2017 – University of Washington, Seattle, WA – <i>advisor: Andrew Connelly</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">— Creating online project interface to identify and characterize transient objects in LSST data using Zooniverse citizen science web portal Detection of Transiting Exoplanets, Student Researcher Jan 2016 – University of Washington, Seattle, WA – <i>advisors: Rory Barnes, Rodrigo Luger</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">— Developing python algorithms to reduce instrumental noise for Kepler photometry and exoplanet transit detection Planetary Science Intern Apr 2011 – June 2013 The Bear Fight Institute, Winthrop, WA – <i>advisors: Tom McCord, Bernard Nordmann</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">— Generated mosaicked satellite-imagery maps for surface of Mars and the Moon— Analyzed composition of the Moon's surface using reflectance spectroscopy
ACADEMIC EMPLOYMENT	Student Assistant, Astronomy Department Jan 2017 – University of Washington, Seattle, WA <ul style="list-style-type: none">— Grade assignments for upper-division astronomy course, lead planetarium presentations for students
OBSERVING EXPERIENCE	Manastash Ridge Observatory, Ellensburg, WA July 2016 <ul style="list-style-type: none">— Observed 10 full nights on 0.75m telescope, completed multi-band optical photometry and imaging, reduction and analysis with IRAF and python
AWARDS	Washington Newspaper Publishers Association Oct 2016 <ul style="list-style-type: none">— 1st Place: Best Video 1st Place: Best Online Photo Essay Washington NASA Space Grant Scholarship Sept 2013 Irving and Louise Donnergaard Endowment Sept 2013 National Merit Scholarship Program, Commended Student Sept 2012
PUBLICATIONS	N. Saunders, R. Luger (2017, in progress) <i>Pushing the Limits of De-Trending with PLD</i> . R. Luger, E. Kruse, D. Foreman-Mackey, E. Agol, N. Saunders (2017) <i>An Update to the EVEREST K2 Pipeline: Short Cadence, Saturated Stars, and Kepler-like Photometry down to $K_p = 15$</i> . arXiv:1702.05488

PRESENTATIONS	Astrobiology Mini Talks, Museum of Flight , Seattle, WA	14 Oct 2017
	— N. Saunders, “The Search for Habitable Worlds”	
	Kepler/K2 Guest Observing Office , Mountain View, CA	12 Oct 2017
	— N. Saunders, “Sputtering Effects on K2 Systematics Removal”	
	UW Undergraduate Research Symposium , Seattle, WA	19 May 2017
	— N. Saunders, “Effects of Pixel Sensitivity Variation on K2 Exoplanet Detection”	
	Washington NASA Space Grant Orientation , Seattle, WA	Apr 2015 – 2017
SERVICE & OUTREACH	— Presented research and led planetarium shows for prospective UW students	
	World Space Week , Seattle, WA	June 2016
	— Multiple public planetarium shows	
	Undergraduate Liaison, UW Astronomy Faculty Board	Sept 2017 –
	— Attend faculty meetings, report undergraduate concerns, communicate with both faculty and students	
	Volunteer Organizer, Astronomy on Tap Seattle	Jan 2017 –
	— Assist with setup and organization of astronomy outreach event	
GROUPS	Volunteer Presenter, UW Planetarium	Nov 2015 –
	— Perform multiple shows each month for public and private audiences	
	Pulsar Kicks, UW Intramural Soccer	Mar 2017 –
	UW League of Astronomers	Jan 2017 –
	SPACE (Students Pursuing Academic and Celestial Exploration)	Nov 2016 –
	Washington NASA Space Grant Consortium	Sept 2013 –
OTHER EMPLOYMENT	Barista – Tea Republik, Seattle, WA	May 2015 – Mar 2017
	Busser – Sun Mountain Lodge, Winthrop, WA	Sept 2012 – Aug 2013
	Swim Instructor and Lifeguard – Wagner Pool, Twisp, WA	Jun 2010 – Aug 2012

References available upon request.