

## Thea Kozakis

### Present Address

Space Sciences Building Room 514  
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### Education

**Masters Astrophysics**; Cornell University, Ithaca, NY  
Graduate Student in Astronomy and Space Sciences, minor in Earth and Atmospheric Sciences

**B.S. Physics, B.S. Astrophysics**; College of Charleston, Charleston, SC  
Double major (B.S.) in Astrophysics and Physics, May 2013, summa cum laude  
Minor in Mathematics

### Research Projects

- Dr. Lisa Kaltenegger, Carl Sagan Institute, Cornell University, Spring 2015 - present
- Studying biosignatures of habitable zone planets orbiting white dwarfs using a coupled climate-photochemistry atmospheric model
  - Searching the Kepler field for evolved stars using GALEX UV data
- Dr. James Lloyd, Cornell University, Fall 2013 - present
- UV/rotation analysis of Kepler field stars  
Study the age-rotation-activity relationship of  $\sim 20,000$  Kepler field stars using UV data from GALEX and publicly available rotation periods
- Dr. Joseph Carson, College of Charleston, Spring 2011 - Summer 2013
- SEEDS Exoplanet Survey  
Led data reduction efforts for the SEEDS High-Mass stars group using the Subaru Telescope's HiCIAO adaptive optics instrument to directly image exoplanets
  - Hubble DICE Survey  
Developed data reduction pipeline for Hubble STIS data to image exoplanets and debris disks around young stars

### Publications

- Direct Imaging Discovery of a 'Super-Jupiter' Around the late B-Type Star  $\kappa$  And, J. Carson, C. Thalmann, M. Janson, T. Kozakis, et al., 2013, Astrophysical Journal Letters, 763, 32
- Planet Hunters X. KIC 8462852: Where's the flux?, T. Boyajian, et al., 2016, MNRAS

### Teaching/ Employment

**Head Astronomy Teaching Assistant**, Cornell University, Lisa Kaltenegger, Fall 2015

- Introductory astronomy class focusing on the Universe as a whole
- Taught recitation sections
- Organized other TAs and managed course website

**Astronomy Teaching Assistant**, Cornell University, Professors Steve Squyres and Phil Nicholson, Spring 2015

- Introductory astronomy class focusing on the Solar System
- Taught recitation sections
- Ran lab sections

**Astronomy Teaching Assistant**, Cornell University, Professor 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
- Managed course website

**Outreach/  
Leadership  
Activities**

**Astronomy Teaching Assistant**, College of Charleston, Christopher True, Fall 2010 - Spring 2011

- Introductory astronomy class
- Assisted instructor in running labs
- Explained concepts to astronomy students

**Physics Lab Manager's Assistant**, College of Charleston, Kathleen Low, Fall 2009 - Spring 2013

- Help prepare equipment for physics labs
- Assist lab instructors when needed
- Organize lab materials and equipment
- Tutor students in introductory physics classes

**Astronomy Grads Network (AGN)**, Cornell University, Fall 2013 - Spring 2014 (member), Fall 2014 - Spring 2015 (**Vice President**), Fall 2015 - Spring 2016 (**Treasurer**)

- 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
- Volunteer weekly at local after school program with astronomy themed activities
- Volunteer for yearly middle school career days to teach about astronomy careers

**Organizer for Museum in the Dark**, Ithaca, NY, Fall 2014 - Present

- Yearly outreach event near Halloween where astronomy students run science demos in the local Museum of the Earth for the general public
- Was liaison between museum and astronomy department
- Recruited volunteers and taught them how to run sciences demos
- Organized and obtained all equipment for event
- Helped to advertise event to the local community

**Organizer for 4-H Focus for Teens Workshop**, Cornell University, Summer 2014 - Present

- Yearly outreach event where high schoolers part of NY's 4-H program traveled to Cornell for several days each summer to learn about potential careers
- Organized and oversaw 3 day astronomy workshop
- Help design/modify individual activities
- Recruit graduate student volunteers

**Workshop Leader for Expanding Your Horizons**, Cornell University, Spring 2015 - Present

- Yearly one day outreach event attended by middle school girls from NY state to learn about the different STEM fields
- Help write yearly application and recruit volunteers
- Help design/modify astronomy workshop activities
- Run workshops and assist in astronomy demos

**Field Representative for Astronomy and Spaces**, Graduate and Professional Student Assembly, Cornell University, Fall 2014 - Spring 2015

- Attended bi-weekly meetings of the Cornell graduate student government
- Was liaison between the Cornell government system and the graduate students and postdoctoral researchers in the Astronomy department

**Society of Physics Students**, College of Charleston, Fall 2009 - Spring 2010 (member), Fall 2010 - Spring 2012 (**Vice President**), Fall 2012 - Spring 2013 (**President**)

- Co-lead the monthly departmental open house for the general public
- Organize and plan science outreach activities
- Promote student community amongst physics and astrophysics majors

**Campus Tour Guide**, Charleston 40, Fall 2009 - Spring 2012

- Responsible for giving tours to prospective students and their families
- Attend and help out at all campus open houses and accepted students weekends

## Academic Honors

- 2016 Eleanor York Prize, Cornell University
- Exemplary Poster Award, Emerging Researchers in Exoplanet Sciences Symposium 2015
- NY Space Grant Recipient, Cornell University, Fall 2013 - Spring 2014
- NSF Graduate Fellowship Honorable Mention, 2014, 2015
- Outstanding Undergraduate Research Award, South Carolina Academy of Science, Spring 2013
- Departmental honors, College of Charleston, Spring 2013
- Outstanding Student, College of Charleston, Spring 2013
- Sigma Pi Sigma Chapter Representative, Fall 2012 - Spring 2013
- College of Charleston Major Academic Year Support Grant Recipient, Fall 2012
- College of Charleston Summer Undergraduate Research with Faculty Grant Recipient, Summer 2012
- Goldwater Scholarship Honorable Mention, Spring 2012

## Computer Skills

Languages:	Proficient with IDL and Python, familiar with Matlab and Fortran
Operating Systems:	Skilled with Linux, Windows, and MAC OS X
Tools and Systems:	Expert with $\text{\LaTeX}$ and Mathematica, familiar with ArcGIS