

Derek Buzasi, Ph.D.

Expert in astrophysics, spaceflight and optics at Florida Gulf Coast University

Fort Myers, FL, US

Derek Buzasi's research involves almost anything to do with stars or the sun.

Biography

Dr. Derek Buzasi is Whitaker Eminent Scholar in Florida Gulf Coast University's Department of Chemistry and Physics. Buzasi has published more than 170 papers, and has also worked on a variety of major instrument teams, including as detector scientist for the Cosmic Origins Spectrograph, part of the Hubble Space Telescope's most recent upgrade, and as principal investigator for the Wide-Field Infrared Explorer satellite. He served on the Science Team for NASA's planet-finding Kepler mission, and currently works on NASA's Transiting Exoplanet Survey Satellite (TESS) mission, where he leads an international Coordinated Activity for the TESS Asteroseismic Science Consortium. Buzasi's research interests include almost anything having to do with stars. He began by studying various aspects of stellar (and solar) activity, such as spots, flares, and winds, and continues to do both observations and theoretical work, including radiative transfer modeling and magnetohydrodynamic models of stellar flux tubes. More recently, he has worked on asteroseismology (the study of stellar oscillations) in stars ranging from intermediate-mass stars to red giants, and on the photometric detection of exoplanets. Dr. Buzasi also works on computer modeling, particularly of nonlinear systems, and is co-author of the chapter on Computational Astrophysics in the CRC Computer Science Handbook. Buzasi is also a reserve Navy engineering duty officer with the rank of Commander; his current assignment is with the Naval Undersea Warfare Center in Keyport, Washington.

Areas of Expertise

Stars, Asteroseismology, Nonlinear Dynamics, Satellites and Spaceflight, Exoplanets, Astrophysics, Stellar Astronomy, Optics, Space

Affiliations

American Astrological Society, American Physical Society, Astronomical Society of the Pacific, Royal Astronomical Society, Council on Undergraduate Research

Education

Penn State University
Ph.D. Astronomy

University of Chicago
B.A. Physics

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