

Curriculum Vitae

G. Seth Shostak

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Education

Ph.D. astrophysics, California Institute of Technology, Pasadena, California

B.A. physics, Princeton University, Princeton, New Jersey

Experience

Senior Astronomer, SETI Institute, Mtn. View, Calif. 2001-present

Public Programs Scientist, SETI Institute, Mtn. View, Calif. 1991-2001

Cable TV Channel 27, Mtn. View, Calif. 1990-1991

Senior Software Engineer, Mira Technology, Los Altos, Calif. 1988-1989

Director and Founder, Digital Images Computer Animation,
Groningen, The Netherlands 1983-1988

Research Associate, Kapteyn Astronomical Institute, State University
of Groningen, The Netherlands 1975-1983

Senior Systems Analyst, Penn Central Transportation Co.,
Philadelphia, Penn. 1974-1975

Research Associate, National Radio Astronomy Observatory,
Charlottesville, Virginia 1972-1974

Publications

Astronomical: More than 60 research papers in refereed, professional journals

Film: More than 50 articles for magazines and newspapers on film and video. Author of
monthly column on film techniques in European magazines from 1980-1982, and
1985-1990.

Science and Technology: Approximately three hundred popular articles published in
magazines, newspapers and the Web, on a wide range of topics.

Scripts: Several commissioned scripts for public relations videos produced for
commercial clients. Two scripts for planetarium shows.

Books: Editor of two scientific books, contributor to five popular astronomy books.

Authored books listed below:

“Sharing the Universe: Perspectives on Extraterrestrial Life” (trade book, March
1998, Berkeley Hills Books)

“Life in the Universe” (textbook, co-author: Jeff Bennett), 2006, Second Edition, Addison-Wesley

“Cosmic Company” (trade book, co-author Alexandra Barnett, Cambridge Univ. Press, November, 2003)

“Confessions of an Alien Hunter: A Scientist’s Search for Extraterrestrial Intelligence” (trade book, National Geographic, March, 2009)

Public Speaking

Frequent appearances as guest lecturer at corporate functions, toastmaster, moderator, keynote speaker, etc. Have given several hundred lectures for the general public on a wide range of subjects. Distinguished Lecturer, Amer. Institute for Aeronautics and Astronautics, 1997-present.

Interviewed many times per year for television shows on Discovery Channel, CNN, A&E, History Channel, BBC and others.

Host of weekly, hour radio show on astrobiology and related science and technology, “Are We Alone” 2002 – present.

Principal Awards

1961: University Scholar, Princeton University

1974: Film awards for “Invisible Universe,” as above

1977: Henk Nieuwenhuis prize for film, Groningen, The Netherlands

1984: Jaap S. Nieuwenhuis Award, from Netherlands Association for Scientific Film and Television

1988: Wubbo Ockels Award, for applied science (image processing in the service of computer animation), The Netherlands

1997 and 1999: Best Bay Area Talk Show, BACE cable TV awards

2004: Klumpke-Roberts Award, from the Astronomical Society of the Pacific, for “Outstanding contributions to better public understanding and appreciation of astronomy.”

Additional

Considerable body of creative writing, mostly for corporate clients

“Idea man” behind plan to build large space and technology theme park in The Netherlands and in California (California Air and Space Center. Also member of the Board.)

Chair (since 2003) of International Academy of Astronautics SETI Permanent Study Group.