

# Ken Brandt, M. Ed.

## Planetarium Director

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### Employment history:

11/2003-present: Director, Robeson Planetarium and Science Center, Lumberton, NC

08/2020-present: Astronomy lecturer, USC Beaufort, Bluffton, SC

2016-2018: Astronomy Lecturer, Southeastern Community College, Chadbourne, NC

2014-2015: Astronomy Lecturer, Campbell University, Buies Creek, NC

8/2004-8/2014: Astronomy Lecturer, University of North Carolina Pembroke

2000-2003: Earth/Space Science HS Teacher, Buchholz HS, Gainesville, FL

1990-2000: Earth/Space, Biology, and Astronomy HS Teacher, Vanguard HS, Ocala, FL

### Education:

2012-present: University of Wyoming, Science Education Doctoral program

1989-1990: University of Florida, Gainesville, FL, Master's Degree, Science Education

1981-1989: University of Florida, Gainesville, FL, BS, Zoology

1984-1986: Santa Fe Community College, Gainesville, FL, A.S., Environmental Science

### Professional Memberships, Offices, Assignments, Certifications, and Committee Assignments:

National Board Certified Teacher, Adolescent/Young Adult Science

NASA/JPL Solar System Ambassador/Master Teacher

Member, Space Science and Astronomy Committee, American Association of Physics Teachers

Member, Education Committee, International Planetarium Society

Member, North Carolina Science Teachers Association

Member, North Carolina Science Network Museum

Member, JPL/NASA Museum Alliance

JHU/APL/NASA *New Horizons* Educator Fellow

President Emeritus, SouthEastern Planetarium Association

President Emeritus, Carolina Association of Planetarium Educators

Planetarium Teacher Trainer, UNC Wilmington

Collaborative Course Author, PHS 1560 Introductory Astronomy, online, for the University of North Carolina system

Assessor, National Board for Professional Teaching Standards

Teacher Trainer, Hands-On Universe Program

### Astronomy Coursework at the Graduate Level: 19 total credit hours

Planetarium Education and Public Outreach (3 hours)

Astrophysical Exploration of Mars (3 hours)

Archeoastronomy (3 hours)

Geology of the Moon (3 hours)

Astronomy with the Hubble Space Telescope (3 hours)

Planetary Geology (4 hours)

### Professional Writing and Podcasts:

Co-Author, *Astronomy Lab Workbook: Essential Procedures, Applications, and Experiments*; Ezell, Finnegan, and Brandt; Kendall Hunt Publishing ISBN 978-1-4652-4895-4

Co-author, educator guide to accompany Astronaut Mike Massimino's book *Spaceman*, Random House Publishing

Co-author, educator guide to accompany Mirage 3D's planetarium program *Natural Selection*

Podcasts for 365 Days of Astronomy; examples include: March 16th: Using the Sun to Find the North Star and January 26th: 7th anniversary of Opportunity's arrival on Mars, Perseverance on Mars

Author, *Galileo Was Right*, activity to accompany the PBS program *400 Years of the Telescope*

Volunteer Assessment Author, MarsOne Human Mission to Mars program

#### **Selected Presentations at Conferences:**

May, 2020: The JUICE Mission to Ganymede, Dome Dialogues E-conference

April, 2020: The Dragonfly Mission to Titan, Dome Dialogues E-conference

April, October 2020: The Perseverance mission to Mars, Collaborative with the Buehler Planetarium

June 2019: Citizen Science Using TESS data, SouthEastern Planetarium Association;

January, 2018: Physical Constraints of Landing on Mars, Invited Speaker at American Association of Physics Teachers

February 2017: Astronomy Outreach & Planetarium Education, Invited paper at American Association of Physics Teachers

December, 2016: Partnering with Your Local Planetarium, Presentation at National Science Teachers Association

November 2016: Mars In Literature, Presentation at North Carolina Science Teachers Association

July 2014: Teaching the Exploration of Mars, Astronomical Society of the Pacific meeting

#### **Names and Contact Information for Three References:**

Robert Locklear, Ph. D.

Assistant Superintendent, Curriculum

Public Schools of Robeson County

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910-671-6000

Derek Demeter

Director, Emil Buehler Perpetual Trust Planetarium

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407-708-2409

Timothy F. Slater, Ph. D.

Endowed Chair and Professor, Science Education

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