

# Department Newsletter

## April 2025



### FUTURE POSITIONS

Several department members have accepted new positions starting in 2025: **Samson Johnson** starts a Technical Staff position at MIT Lincoln Lab in April - his final day at OSU is 11 April. **Alison Duck** has accepted a position as a NASA Exoplanet Exploration Program Postdoctoral Research Associate at JPL. **Dom Rowan** will be starting as a Hubble Fellow at UC Berkeley in the fall.

**We wish them success in their new positions!**

### AWARDS & SUCCESS

March saw successes across all levels of the Department: Undergraduate Students **Emily Macbeth** and **Gregory Costa** received accolades at the [30<sup>th</sup> Annual Denman Research Forum](#); Emily took 3<sup>rd</sup> place and Greg received an honorable mention in the *Earth and Beyond* category. Graduate Student **Caprice Phillips** is a recipient of the 2024-25 OSU [Graduate Associate Leadership Award](#). Among the faculty, **Sultana Nahar** has received the “Outstanding Student Organization Advisor Award” as part of the 2025 OSU Student Life Leadership Awards. **John Beacom** has been elected to the [2024 class of AAAS Fellows](#). The AAAS Fellowship recognizes “scientifically or socially distinguished efforts to advance science or its applications”; John was recognized “For distinguished contributions to the fields of nuclear and particle astrophysics, particularly regarding neutrinos.”

**Congratulations to all!**

### RESULTS AND CONTRIBUTIONS

Recent results from the **DESI** team hint that [dark energy may evolve over time](#). Work by Ji Wang shows [gas giant planets may form earlier than previously thought](#). **Naim Karacayli** and **Chris Hirata** have a new [paper on arXiv](#). **Sultana Nahar** organized an international symposium celebrating International Women’s Day at the Indo-US STEM Education and Research Center.

### CAMPUS RESOURCES: EMPLOYEE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

The [Employee Assistance Program](#) offers a variety of resources, including free counseling services, resource locators, financial tools, and legal services for family law issues. It is available to OSU employees, their dependents, household members, and parents.

For current news stories, visit <https://astronomy.osu.edu/news>

## Upcoming Events

### COLLOQUIUM

**Th Apr 10, 3:00pm:** Adam Burrows (Princeton)  
**Title:** The Systematics of Core-Collapse Supernova Theory  
**Th Apr 17, 3:00pm:** Brant Robertson (UCSC)  
**Title:** TBA  
**Th Apr 24, 3:00pm:** Courtney Epstein  
**Title:** TBA

### OTHER EVENTS

**Mar 30-April 5:** [Graduate and Professional Student Appreciation Week](#)

**Th Apr 10 6:00pm:** UMAAC Undergraduate Astronomy Town Hall: *Smith Seminar Room, PRB*

**Mon Apr 21:** Last Day of Classes

**Tu Apr 22:** Reading Day

**Apr 23 – 29:** Finals Week

**Su May 04:** Commencement

### DEI

**Th Apr 3, 12:30pm:** Diversity Journal Club  
*Topic – Discussion of SB1*

**Th Apr 10, 12:30pm:** AstroGenMin & LGBTQ+ Lunch

**Th Apr 17, 12:30pm:** Diversity Journal Club  
*Topic – TBD*

**Th Apr 24, 12:30pm:** AstroGenMin & LGBTQ+ Lunch

### CCAPP Seminars

**Tu Apr 1, 12:00pm:** Siddhartha Gupta (Princeton)

**Tu Apr 8, 12:00pm:** Noemie Globus (UNAM)

**Tu Apr 15, 12:00pm:** Matt McQuinn (Washington)

**Tu Apr 22, 12:00pm:** Rasmi Hajjar (Valencia U.)

A list of upcoming events can also be found at <https://astronomy.osu.edu/events>

Submit events and news: [astro-webrequests@osu.edu](mailto:astro-webrequests@osu.edu)

