

# Department Newsletter

November 2024



## AWARDS & SUCCESS

Mark Reynolds and his wife Razi Kebriai (OSU Pharmacy) celebrated the birth of baby Aiden! Wynne Turner was awarded the [David Will Prize for Achievement in Data Science and Computation](#) for her work developing a sophisticated machine learning tool to predict the quasar continuum in the Lyman alpha forest region. Sultana Nahar's work on studying the Sun's composition and evolution has been highlighted by the [Ohio Supercomputer Center](#). Wayne Schlingman and the activities of the Arne Slettebak Planetarium were highlighted in the [relaunched College magazine, ASCENT](#). **Congratulations to all!**

## OUTREACH UPDATES

We had a successful FOSAA event on October 27! Many thanks to Jennifer and Wayne for organizing, to Amanda and Rick for giving stellar talks and helping, and to Liam, Barbara, Vince, Kaz, and Anusha for their help with all the other activities.

WestFest 2024 - The Ohio State University's West Campus Science & Sustainability Festival – took place on October 19 and was a hit! In its 7th year, nearly 50 partner organizations participated, and an estimated 450 people (young and seasoned) participated in STEM activities including learning about the research happening at Ohio State.

## ISL ACTIVITIES

The Smith Observatory hit another milestone in October: the building dome is once again operational, and the installation of a new 20-inch PlaneWave telescope took place. Thank you to Rick, Dan, Mark, Jon and everyone on the ISL team who is helping to make our next generation campus observatory a reality!

## PRONOUN STICKERS

OSU seeks to foster a comfortable, welcoming and respectful environment where everyone's [pronouns are honored](#). For those who wish to use them, pronoun stickers (suitable for displaying on door name plates) are available on the small coffee table in the main office (MP 4055).

## US ELECTION DAY

Election Day (Nov 5) will be a day of asynchronous learning to support student participation in the general election. [OSU Votes](#) is a non-partisan, student-led initiative that works to register, educate and encourage other students to vote. Find out more about voting and election day in Ohio at: [VoteOhio.Gov](#)

## Upcoming Events

### COLLOQUIUM

**Th Nov 7, 3:00pm:** Boryana Hadzhiyska (UC Berkeley & LBNL)

**Title:** TBA

**Th Nov 14, 3:00pm:** Duncan Lorimer (West Virginia)

**Title:** *Fast Radio Bursts: A Cosmic Detective Story*

### OTHER EVENTS

**Tu Nov 5:** Election Day: Asynchronous Learning Day for Students - Offices Open

**Mon Nov 11:** Veterans Day: Offices Closed

**Fr Nov 15:** NSF proposal submission deadline

**Fr Nov 22 6:00pm:** UMAAC Astronomical Autumn Dinner

**Wed Nov 27:** No Classes: Offices Open

**Th 28 – Fr 29 Nov:** Thanksgiving: Offices Closed

**Wed Dec 4:** Last Day of Classes

### Talks

**Fr Nov 15, 11:15am:** Ismael Mireles (New Mexico)

*Exoplanet Group Meeting – Title TBA*

**Fr Nov 22, 11:15am:** Rae Holcomb (UC Irvine)

*Exoplanet Group Meeting – Title TBA*

### DEI

**Th Nov 7, 12:30pm:** Diversity Journal Club  
*Subject TBA*

**Th Nov 14, 12:30pm:** AstroGenMin and LGBTQ+ Lunch

**Th Nov 21, 12:30pm:** Diversity Journal Club  
*Subject TBA*

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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)

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