

Department Newsletter

April 2024



TOTAL SOLAR ECLIPSE: APRIL 8

On April 8th, *Astro Coffee and group meetings are cancelled* as many department members will be travelling for the eclipse.

AWARDS & SUCCESS

Smita Mathur is the recipient of the 2024 Ohio State Distinguished Scholar Award. **Wynne Turner** was awarded 2nd place at the [Hayes Graduate Research Forum](#). **Joy Bhattacharyya** is the recipient of a Ray Travel Award and Career Development Grant from the OSU Council of Graduate Students. With 1481 citations, the ASAS-SN paper ([Shappee et al. 2014](#)) is the 50th most-cited astronomy paper of the past decade. Under the supervision of **Sultana Nahar**, the female physics students at Aligarh Muslim University, India have been awarded an [APS WiP Group Grant](#).

Several graduate students will be defending and moving to new academic positions in the coming months:

Kiersten Boley: Carnegie Postdoctoral Fellowship and Sagan Fellow at Carnegie Institution for Science.

Jack Neustadt: Miller Postdoctoral Fellow at Johns Hopkins University.

Rachel Patton: Samuel P. Langley Pitt-PACC Fellow at University of Pittsburgh.

Michael Plummer: Assistant Professor of Physics in the United States Air Force Academy.

Congratulations to all!

DEPARTMENT ARRIVALS

Dan Qiu (she/her) from the National Astronomical Observatories of China will be joining us as a visiting graduate student for a year from May 1. She will be in the department in April. **Welcome!**

POLARIS POSTER SESSION

The Polaris Mentorship Course will host a poster session on April 15 from 5:15pm in the PRB Atrium. The event is the culmination of the course and undergraduate students will present the mini-research project they worked on with their graduate mentor.

ASC TECH UPDATES

We have an ASC Tech Specialist, Alex Gognat, at the front office desk in MP 4055 on **Thursdays** to assist with **walk up IT issues**. Alex will be assisting with tickets submitted to asctech@osu.edu so please continue to submit requests for assistance as normal.

CAMPUS RESOURCES

The Student Advocacy Center will connect undergraduate students with an advocate who can help them navigate issues including academic issues, personal crises, and classroom behavior. See advocacy.osu.edu or contact advocacy@osu.edu.

Upcoming Events

COLLOQUIUM

Th Apr 4, 3pm: Daniel Lecoanet (Northwestern)

Title: Recent Advances in Stellar Astrophysics from Multi-Dimensional Simulations

Th Apr 11, 3pm: Megan Donahue (MSU)

Title: TBA

Th Apr 18, 3pm: Varsha Kulkarni (USC)

Title: TBA

Th Apr 25, 3pm: Andrey Kravstov (U. Chicago)

Title: TBA

OTHER EVENTS

Apr 1-7: [Graduate and Professional Student Appreciation Week](#)

Apr 1-2: Prospective graduate students visit

Mon Apr 8: Total Solar Eclipse

Astro Coffee and group meetings are cancelled.

Mon Apr 15, 5:15pm: Polaris poster session

Talks

Tu Apr 2, 2:00pm: Luke Weisenbach (Portsmouth)

Exoplanet Group Meeting – Title TBA

Fri Apr 5, 11:15am: Jessica Libby-Roberts (Penn State)

Exoplanet Group Meeting – Title TBA

Fri Apr 5, 12:30pm: Michael Plummer (OSU)

Ph.D. Defense – Tempests in the Extrasolar Skies

Fri Apr 12, 11:15am: James Rogers (UCLA)

Exoplanet Group Meeting – Title TBA

DEI

Th Apr 4, 12:30pm: Diversity Journal Club

Nature: Physics Education Research Focus edition

Th Apr 11, 12:30pm: AstroGenMin Lunch

Th Apr 18, 12:30pm: Diversity Journal Club

Speaker: Dr. Steven Villeneuve (NASA GSFC)

Th Apr 25, 12:30pm: Astro LGBTQ+ Lunch

CCAPP Seminars

Tu Apr 2, 12pm: Douglas Cowen (Penn State)

Tu Apr 9, 12pm: Martin Lemoine (U. Paris-Cité)

Tu Apr 16, 12pm: Carol Cuesta-Lazaro (CfA)

Tu Apr 23, 12pm: Kayla Leonard (Penn State)

Tu Apr 30, 12pm: Jessie Muir (Perimeter)

