

PHYSICS COLLOQUIUM

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3:50 PM, Room 111, Life Sciences

Not Just Sky Shows: Astronomy Research at the Adler Planetarium

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The Adler Planetarium is a premiere center for bringing astronomy and space science to the public, but it is also the home of significant astronomy research rivaling many university departments. More than a dozen researchers are actively working on a diverse range of subjects, including asteroid compositions, star formation, gamma ray air showers, the history of astronomy, and an almost bewilderingly wide variety of "citizen science" projects. In this talk, I will present an overview of Adler astronomy research, with a special focus on my own project to identify fragments of differentiated asteroids, which may be the remnants of lost nearly-planet-sized objects that once roamed throughout the asteroid belt.

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