



College of
Science
Department of Physics
& Astronomy

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Weekly Calendar

September 12-16, 2016

Departmental Colloquium

“Changing his Mind at the Speed of Thought: Einstein's Failed Attempts to Undiscover Gravitational Waves”

3:30 PM, Thursday, Sept. 15, 2016

109 Nicholson Hall

Daniel Kennefick
University of Arkansas

Host: Jorge Pullin

The first detection of gravitational waves was announced to the world earlier this year, very close to the 100th anniversary of Einstein's first use of the term in writing. Ironically that first use was to express his skepticism that they existed at all! This talk examines how Einstein changed his mind repeatedly about whether his (then new) theory of general relativity really predicted the existence of gravitational waves. We will also see how the controversy which he began was eventually decided in time to permit work on their detection to get underway.

Landolt Observatory Public Viewing Night

What: Saturn, Mars, Venus, and Moon-on-a-half-shell

When: 7: 30 PM – 8:30 PM, Sunday, September 11, 2016

Where: Landolt Observatory - The roof of Nicholson Hall

LSU Physics & Astronomy in the News

- **LSU Medical Physicist Works to Improve Treatment Outcomes for Postmasectomy Patients:** Assistant Professor **Rui Zhang** was awarded a grant from the National Cancer Institute to improve treatment outcomes for breast cancer patients. Read more: http://www.lsu.edu/physics/news/2016/09/zhang_grant.php
- **In Pursuit of Mystery:** Undergraduate student **Rory Bentley** talks about why he chose astrophysics. Read more: <http://bit.ly/2cAciKS>

Events

What: Society of Physics Students (SPS) Nerf War

When: September 15, 2016 6:30 PM - 8:30 PM

Where: 232 Nicholson Hall Library