Petabytes from the Sky: Understanding our Dark Universe

Professor J. Anthony Tyson
Department of Physics, UC Davis

Date: 19 January 2006 Thursday       Time: 4:10-5:00 pm       Location: 1062 Bainer
Refreshments will be provided at 4:00 p.m.

ABSTRACT

Hosted by: Professor Bruce White

A confluence of three new technologies now allows us to address perhaps the greatest puzzle of our universe: that it is filled with forms of dark mass-energy which are outside of current physics. A collaboration of engineers and astrophysicists is building this new facility, the Large Synoptic Survey Telescope. Together with hundreds of Petabytes of data and an interdisciplinary initiative at UC Davis, we will attack this exciting problem as well as a host of other astrophysical questions. The mechanical, electronic, optical, and software challenges will be reviewed.

ABOUT THE SPEAKER

Dr. Anthony Tyson’s research interests are in cosmology, dark matter, dark energy, observational optical astronomy, experimental gravitational physics, and new instrumentation. He has been a Professor in the Physics Department at UC Davis since 2003. He received his Ph.D. degree from University of Wisconsin in 1967. He was a member of the Technical Staff at AT&T Bell Laboratories between 1969 and 1985, and a Distinguished MTS at Bell Laboratories between 1985 and 2003. He received many honors including: Elected to American Philosophical Society, Elected to National Academy of Sciences, Aaronson Memorial Prize, Elected Fellow, American Academy of Arts and Sciences, and Elected Fellow, American Physical Society.

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Members of the campus community and visitors from the region are welcome to attend the seminar series. Sign-in is required at the event. SpaceED seminar will replace MAE297 seminar on 3rd Thursdays.

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