



Public Lecture



Tuesday 19 August 2014

Unraveling the Universe

In 1998, the expansion of the universe was traced back over billions of years and it was discovered that it was accelerating at a rate that was faster than the rate that matter alone could produce. The cosmos is contained in a proportionally unknown form of matter called Dark Energy.

Thirteen years later, Brian Schmidt, a Distinguished Professor at the Australian National University, led the team that discovered this acceleration. He will be the guest speaker for the work leading the research.

Today, as one of the brightest stars in physics, he arrives in Tasmania for a series of lectures about his role in the discovery and what it means for our understanding of the cosmos.

Adjunct Researcher at the University of Tasmania and member of the Executives of both the Australian Institute of Physics and the Astronomical Society of Australia, Dr Maria Duljida said Professor Schmidt was a phenomenal and in-demand speaker.

“Professor Schmidt is passionate about young people and science. We are very lucky to have him in Tasmania not just for public lectures but for visits to schools throughout the State.” Dr Duljida said.

“There are not a lot of Nobel Prize winners in Australia so the chance to go and hear him speak and to ask him questions is very special indeed.”

Professor Schmidt is a member of National Science Week and has been recognised by the Astronomical Society of Australia and the Australian Institute of Physics with support from the University of Tasmania.

School visits will take place in Don College, Launceston College, Fagan School and Elton School in Launceston and Hobart.

Public lectures – The Accelerating Universe Launceston

When: tonight, Tuesday 19 August 8pm with refreshments served from 7.30pm

Where: St David's School, Old Hobart, North Bay campus of the University of Tasmania.

Hobart

When: tomorrow, Wednesday 20 August 8pm with refreshments served from 7.30pm.

Where: Stanley Burbury Theatre, Sandy Bay campus of the University of Tasmania.

Information released by:

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