

University of Washington • Department of Physics

PHYSICS COLLOQUIUM

Marc Kamionkowski (California Institute of Technology)

"Is the Universe (Statistically) Isotropic? "

Monday, November 2, 2009

4:00 PM, Ronald Geballe Auditorium, Rm. A-102

Abstract: Inflation predicts that the Universe is homogeneous and isotropic---that is, it is the same everywhere and in every direction. Cosmological homogeneity and isotropy are generally *assumed* to be true, but this is a prediction that can be tested quantitatively. I will first discuss some new tests of statistical homogeneity and isotropy. I will then review briefly some recent evidence that may show a departure from homogeneity and

present a theoretical model that may account for this anomaly. In the last few minutes, I may speculate wildly about the pre-inflationary Universe.

Tuesday, November 3

Particle Theory Seminar

2:30 PM, C-421, PAT

Astrobiology Seminar

2:30 PM, A-118, PAA

CMA Seminar

4:00 PM, C-421, PAT

Sebastian Franco, UC Santa Barbara

"Calculable Single-Sector SUSY Breaking "

Chris McKay, NASA Ames Research Center

"Results from the Mars Phoenix Mission for Mars Habitability and comparisons to Mars-like places on Earth"

Markus Raschke, UW Chemistry

"Optical antennas for nanoscale imaging and spectroscopy of elementary excitations in solids"

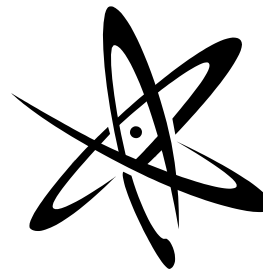
Wednesday, November 4

General Exam

2:00 PM, C-520, PAT

Michael Hotz, UW Physics

Seminars



Nov 2-6

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Thursday, November 5

Energy Future Seminar

12:30 PM, A-118, PAA

David Ginger, UW Chemistry

“Plastic Solar Cells? Challenges and Opportunities for Photovoltaics”

Astronomy Colloquium

4:00 PM, A-102, PAA

Gerhardt Meuer, Johns Hopkins University

“Star Formation Scaling Relations in HI Selected Galaxies”

Friday, November 6

CENPA Seminar

10:30 AM, Rm. 178, CENPA

Peter Kammel, University of Illinois-Urbana Champaign

“Precision Muon Physics, New Results and Future Prospects”

EPE Seminar

12:30 PM, C-421, PAT

Toby Burnett, UW Physics

“Fermi-LAT searches for dark matter”

Particle Astrophysics Seminar

3:30 PM, A-114, PAA

Marshall Roth, UW Physics

“Fermi gamma ray observatory: latest news”