



UNIVERSITY of
DENVER

PHYSICS AND ASTRONOMY

Presents

The Dark Energy Camera Legacy Survey and the search for the most distant quasars



Wednesday, November 11, 2015

4:00 PM

F.W. Olin Hall Room 105

2190 E. Iliff Avenue

Presented by

Dr. Joseph Findlay

Postdoctoral Research Associate

University of Wyoming

Quasars are super massive black holes which reside at the centres of massive galaxies funneling surrounding material across the event horizon via a glowing hot accretion disc. This highly efficient conversion of gravitational potential to radiative energy puts quasars among the most luminous objects in the Universe. The most distant known quasars are observed when the Universe was less than a tenth of its current age. The light they emit carries valuable tracers of the conditions in the Universe at these times. However, the most distant quasars are extremely rare and successful searches must efficiently reject billions of foreground Galactic stars which share the same parameter space. In this talk I will explain the motivations for large distant quasar searches, discuss the efficient search techniques we employ, present recent discoveries and discuss our most recent undertaking -- the search for distant quasars in Dark Energy Camera Legacy Survey (DECaLS).

HOST: Dr. Jennifer Hoffman, (303) 871-2268, Jennifer.Hoffman@du.edu

Join us for refreshments & follow-up discussions in Physics Building Room 116, 5:00-6:00 PM