

SAN DIEGO STATE UNIVERSITY DEPARTMENT OF PHYSICS AND DEPARTMENT OF
ASTRONOMY COLLOQUIUM

Speaker: Prof. Joshua Pepper (Lehigh University)

Topic: The Next Stage of Exoplanet Discovery

Time: 3:00 PM, Friday, April 21, 2017 (refreshments served at
2:45 PM)

Place: Room 215, Physics-Astronomy Building (PA-215)

Abstract:

The explosion of exoplanet discovery over the past decade has answered many key questions about exoplanets, but opened up many more. The bulk of our exoplanet knowledge has been driven by radial-velocity surveys, and a combination of space-based and ground-based transit surveys. That will remain the case for the next few years as the TESS mission begins to dominate the exoplanet field, but will then radically change as the techniques of microlensing and direct imaging detection enter into maturity. I will discuss the current state of exoplanet knowledge, and describe what we hope to learn in the next several years. I will also discuss how small telescopes and amateur astronomers will play an increasingly prominent role in the field.