



**ASTROPHYSICS
SEMINAR SERIES**

"The Giant Magellan Telescope"

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Tuesday, October 15, 2013

Refreshments at 3:15pm in CAS 500

Talk begins at 3:30pm in CAS 502

Abstract:

The Giant Magellan Telescope is one of several extremely large optical telescopes currently being planned world-wide. With a diameter of 25m, an adaptive optics system, and located at Las Campanas, Chile, the GMT will be poised to tackle a wide variety of projects requiring large collecting area and exquisite spatial resolution. The project is well underway, with the third of seven 8.4m diameter primary mirror segments successfully cast a few weeks ago. I will give an overview of the scientific motivations, design and capabilities of the telescope and instruments, project status, and a few technical challenges.