

2017-2018 Space Physics Seminar Series

The Northern Lights as a Scientific Instrument

Magnetospheres exist throughout the cosmos... tenuous regions of space around magnetized bodies which are host important physical processes. The study of Earth's magnetosphere is really astronomy up close. On one hand, we can use in situ instruments on satellites to look directly at how, for example, reconnection and wave particle interactions affect the transport of energy and material within the magnetosphere. On the other hand, however, the magnetosphere itself is largely invisible, so our view of it as a system has to be pieced together from indirect measurements. In this talk I will explore how imaging of the aurora from the ground and space is used to piece together a multi-scale view of the magnetosphere.

Thursday, March 22 at 4:00PM
725 Commonwealth Avenue
Room 502



Eric Donovan
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