

PHYSICS DEPARTMENT COLLOQUIUM

“PROBING THE DARK ENERGY IN THE ACCELERATING
UNIVERSE WITH SNAP”

BY

DR. MICHAEL SCHUBNELL
UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

It has now been firmly established that the universe is expanding at an accelerated rate, driven by a presently unknown form of "dark energy". The SuperNova / Acceleration Probe (SNAP) is an international satellite mission dedicated to precisely map out the cosmological expansion history of the universe and thereby determine the properties of the dark energy that appears to dominate our universe today. SNAP will study thousands of distant supernovae, each with unprecedented precision, using a 2-meter telescope with a wide field, large area optical-to-near-IR imager and spectrograph. I will give a brief introduction to dark energy cosmology, followed by an overview of the SNAP mission.

THURSDAY, APRIL 3, 2003
4:00 PM IN 102 JFB
REFRESHMENTS AT 3:30 PM IN 219 JFB