## **Astronomy and Astrophysics**



Astronomy Unit and School of Physics Alumni Day Queen Mary, University of London Saturday 26 March 2011



Join Professor Jim Emerson and Professor Richard Nelson for a relaxed programme of lectures, conversation and lunch

# Astronomy Unit and School of Physics, Queen Mary, University of London

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The Astronomy Unit at Queen Mary, University of London is a leading research centre in areas as diverse as solar system dynamics and cosmology – from the rings of Saturn to the birth of the Universe. Join Professors Jim Emerson and Richard Nelson for a relaxed programme of lectures, conversation and lunch.

The Astronomy Unit is one of the main centres of astrophysics research in the UK. A wide range of research areas is studied including solar system dynamics, space and solar plasmas, planetary atmospheres, stellar structure, planet formation, survey astronomy and cosmology.

The Astronomy Unit is based in the School of Mathematical Sciences but has always worked closely with the School of Physics, especially in participating in teaching Astrophysics at both undergraduate and postgraduate level. The MSc in Astrophysics is

one of the longest running masters programmes in the UK and has provided a pathway into Astrophysics for many students over the years. There are currently 15 faculty members in the Astronomy Unit, alongside post-doctoral fellows and PhD students. There is a lively interactive research environment with general Astronomy seminars and more specialised group meetings. There are interactions with colleagues in both Physics and Mathematics.

More information is available at www.maths.qmul.ac.uk/astronomy

**Professor Jim Emerson** led the build project for the VISTA telescope which has recently begun operations in the Atacama Desert in Chile as part of the European Southern Observatory (ESO). VISTA (the Visible and Infrared Survey Telescope for Astronomy) is the world's largest telescope dedicated to mapping the sky in infrared light and will reveal a completely new view of the southern sky.

**Professor Richard Nelson** leads the Planetary Formation and Astrophysical Fluids Group. His research focuses on the formation and evolution of planetary systems, the dynamics of astrophysical disks and numerical astrophysics. His current research is concerned with how nascent planets around distant stars interact with the protoplanetary disk.

### Astronomy and Astrophysics

### Saturday 26 March 2011

All events will take place on Queen Mary's Mile End campus

### **Programme**

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10.30	Welcome and coffee Foyer, Francis Bancroft Building		
11.00	Building the VISTA survey telescope in Chile's Atacama Desert Professor Jim Emerson, Professor of Astrophysics, Astronomy Unit, School of Mathematical Sciences		
12.00	Q&A and discussion session Maths Lecture Theatre, Mathematical Sciences Building		
12.30	<b>Lunch*</b> Octagon, Queens' Building		
14.45	Planetary Systems in the Galaxy: Architecture, Formation and Evolution Professor Richard Nelson, Professor of Mathematics and Astronomy and Head of Research, School of Mathematical Sciences		
15.45	Q&A and discussion session Maths Lecture Theatre, Mathematical Sciences Building		
16.15	Afternoon tea and campus tours* The Curve, Westfield Student Village		
17.00	Close		

<sup>\*</sup>Lunch and afternoon tea will be taken with guests attending the Alumni Spring Lunch. Campus tours will be available subject to demand.

### Reply

### **Booking information**

Title	First name(s)	
Surname		Maiden name
Address		
		Postcode
Tel		email
College		Subject
Year of gra	duation	- IIIIII
Job title	- 60	Organisation

### **Payment options**

[ ] Total number for Astronomy Unit and School of Physics Alumni Day at £35 per person (inclusive of all refreshments and lunch)

Total amount enclosed £ [

Full name(s) and title(s) of guest(s) (please indicate if your guest is a former member of the College):

Please make cheques payable to 'QMUL'. Alternatively you can telephone the Alumni Relations Office on +44 (0)20 7882 7790 to make a payment by credit or debit card. Book online at www.qmul.ac.uk/alumni

Please state any dietary and access requirements below:

#### I would like an invitation to be sent to my contemporaries [ ]

(please stipulate full name(s), subject(s) studied and year(s) of graduation, plus contact details if known, on a separate sheet)

Booking deadline: Monday 21 March





Astronomy Unit and School of Physics Alumni Day (26.03.11) Alumni Relations Office Queen Mary, University of London Mile End Road London E1 4NS

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### For further information contact:

Alumni Relations Office Queen Mary, University of London Mile End Road London E1 4NS

Tel: +44 (0)20 7882 7790 email: alumni@qmul.ac.uk www.qmul.ac.uk/alumni

