

THE
CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY
of AMERICA



Department of Physics
Colloquium

Dr. Michael Corcoran
NASA's GSFC / CUA

The Lives and Deaths of Extremely Massive Stars

Extremely massive stars are extremely rare, but their cosmic importance far exceeds their numbers. These stars are associated with some of the most energetic phenomena in the Universe, and are key sources of chemical elements needed for planets and life. In this talk I'll discuss the current understanding of how massive a star can be, describe how extremely massive stars form, live and die, and show how these stars can become sources of extreme gamma-ray explosions and even sources of detectable gravitational radiation. I'll particularly emphasize the importance of massive binaries in providing constraints on orbital and stellar parameters.

Wednesday, November 1, 2017

4:00pm

108 Hannan Hall

Refreshments will be served at 3:45

Sponsored in part by the Graduate Student Association

For more information or if you would like to request disability accommodations, please contact:

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