

The DEPARTMENT OF
PHYSICS & ASTRONOMY
presents

AN AUDACIOUS ENTERPRISE:

The Dreams,
Realities, and Future
of Gravitational Wave
Astronomy

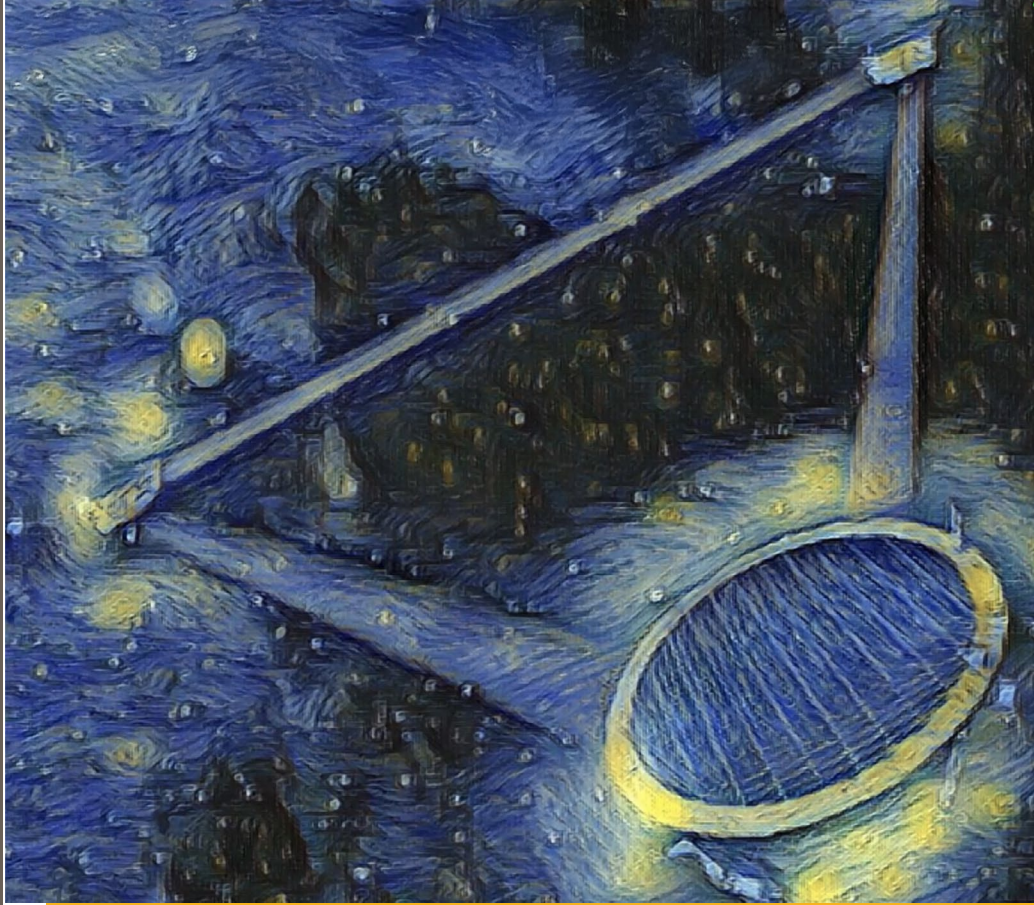
Wednesday,
February 11th 2026
1:30 pm

Tracy Hall Science Center
Room 102



WEBER STATE
UNIVERSITY

College of Science



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Clarkson University

There is a singular truth about humans: we have an infinite reservoir of optimism about our imagination, our curiosity, and our ability to solve problems. Nowhere is this more evident than in our endeavors to probe and understand the Cosmos. Modern astronomy is a synthesis of creativity with science and engineering that has revealed a Universe vast, complex, and mystifying.

Here in the early decades of the 21st Century, we have harnessed technology to extend our senses and knowledge far beyond the boundaries of our bodies and our small planet. One of the most remarkable examples of this is called Gravitational-wave Astronomy. More than a century in the making, this audacious enterprise is revealing the Cosmos not through light we can see in telescopes, but through faint whispers of gravity we can sense with enormous instruments built of lasers and mirrors.

In this talk we will introduce gravitational wave astronomy, talk about current and future gravitational wave observatories, and talk about what gravity can reveal about the deaths of stars, supermassive black holes, and the hearts of galaxies.