



University
of Victoria

PHYSICS AND ASTRONOMY COLLOQUIUM (In Person Only)

Dr. Sara Ellison
University of Victoria

“Clash of the Titans: Galaxy mergers in the nearby Universe”

Abstract

Astronomy's current model of galaxy evolution is built on a foundation of hierarchical growth, in which small galaxies merge together to form larger ones. In addition to the simple accrual of mass, this merging process is predicted to fundamentally change the galaxies' properties, such as dramatic morphological transformations, the triggering of bursts of star formation and high rates of accretion onto the central supermassive black hole. In this talk I will explain the physical processes behind these predictions, and present the observations that we are performing in order to test the theory.

Wednesday, September 18th, 2024

3:30 p.m. PST

BWC A104