

Subject: Reminder: DSU Colleagues Meeting tomorrow - Monday, April 2, 2018 @ 12 noon in Taylor Lecture Hall 156

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Dear Colleagues,

We hope you have had a wonderful Easter today!

This is just a reminder of our Colleagues meeting tomorrow, **Monday, April 2, 2018 at 12:00 noon in Lecture Hall 156 of the Taylor Health Science Center** (located at 1526 East Medical Center Drive, south of Lowe's and east of River Road). Our special guest speaker for the March meeting will be **Ron Smith**, and the title of his presentation is, "**Dark Matter and Dark Energy.**"

A century ago, astronomers felt we lived in an island universe. Only a vast expanse of empty space existed beyond the stars, dust, and gas of our Milky Way. This all changed in 1923. Using the 100-inch telescope at the Mt. Wilson observatory, Edwin Hubble discovered that the Andromeda spiral nebula was not a cloud of gas in our Milky Way, but a vast assemblage of stars beyond the Milky Way. We discovered our "island universe" was just one of billions and billions of galaxies. Now astronomers are confident that most of the matter in our universe remains invisible. That also applies to most of the energy. Roughly, 96% of all the matter and energy in the universe is "dark," meaning it cannot be directly observed. How did we come to this startling conclusion? In his presentation, former astronomy professor and planetarium lecturer, **Ron Smith**, will guide us through the unseen world of dark matter and dark energy.

While obtaining his master's degree in astronomy at USC, Ron Smith worked part-time as a planetarium lecturer at the Griffith Observatory. Upon graduation in 1971, he worked full-time teaching astronomy and giving planetarium shows at Santa Ana College. Two years later, he did the same for 12 years at Santa Monica College. In 1985, he took a full-time teaching position at Santa Rosa Junior College and worked there until 2003. Then he went into semi-retirement by teaching part-time at Cerro Coso College in Bishop, California. For the past nine years, he has enjoyed the retired life in St. George. He currently gives lectures on diverse science topics, coaches swimming, and plays duplicate bridge.

Hope to see you tomorrow for Ron Smith's presentation.

Our final presentation of this academic year will be on Monday, May 7th. **Dr. Richard B. Williams, President of Dixie State University**, will give us an update on the happenings at Dixie State. We hope you will plan to attend!

Thank you for your continued support.

Sincerely,

DSU President, Dr. Richard B. Williams and former DSU President, Dr. Douglas D. Alder

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