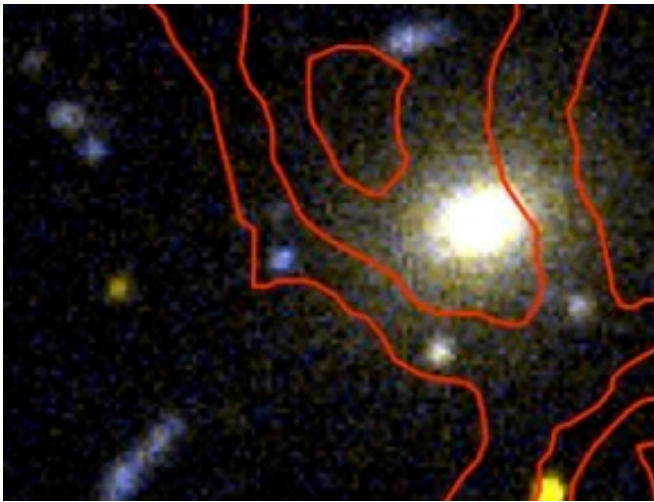


F&M

Physics & Astronomy Department Colloquium

4:30 pm on Thursday, October 20, 2011
218 Hackman Hall

Molecular Gas in Nearby Galaxies



Jennifer Donovan
Postdoctoral Fellow
Stony Brook University

Resolved observations of molecular gas in nearby galaxies lend insight into many of the processes involved in galaxy evolution, as studies of the evolution of galaxies from high redshift to $z=0$, the evolution of spiral galaxy structure, and star formation within giant molecular clouds are all anchored on these observations. I will present and place in context recent observations of CO ($J=1-0$), the most commonly used tracer of molecular hydrogen, in the centers of four nearby spiral galaxies and the outskirts of a nearby early type galaxy, probing two very different regions of parameter space.