

*The Department of Physics and Astronomy
presents*



2017 William H. Nelson Lecture
"Mysteries of the Dark Universe"

Dr. Edward W. (Rocky) Kolb, The University of Chicago

Wednesday, 19 April 2017, 3:30pm
25 Park Place, 8th Floor, Room 830

*🍷🍷🍷 Please join us beginning at 3:10 pm for coffee, tea, and treats with Dr. Kolb
and to celebrate the end of spring term! 🍷🍷🍷*



Abstract: Ninety-five percent of the universe is missing! We can only identify the composition of five percent of the total mass and energy in the universe. Twenty-five percent of the cosmic mass-energy is in a mysterious substance called dark matter, which holds together galaxies and other cosmic structures, while seventy percent is in an even more mysterious form called dark energy, which seems to act as a repulsive gravitational force driving the expansion of the universe. Unlocking the mysteries of dark matter and dark energy will illuminate the nature of space and time and connect the quantum with the cosmos.

Edward W. Kolb (known to most as *Rocky*) is the Arthur Holly Compton Distinguished Service Professor of Astronomy & Astrophysics and the College and Dean of the Physical Sciences at the University of Chicago, as well as a member of the Enrico Fermi Institute and the Kavli Institute for Cosmological Physics. He was a founding head of the Theoretical Astrophysics Group and the founding Director of the Particle Astrophysics Center at Fermi National Accelerator Laboratory. Kolb is a Fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences and a Fellow of the American Physical Society. He has received numerous prestigious teaching and research awards, including the 2003 Oersted Medal of the American Association of Physics Teachers, and the 2010 Dannie Heineman Prize for Astrophysics, awarded by the American Astronomical Society and the American Institute for Physics.



The William H. Nelson Physics & Astronomy Research Endowment was set up to honor the memory of Dr. William H. Nelson by the Nelson family. Dr. Nelson worked at Georgia State University from 1974 until his sudden death in 2010.

Dr. Nelson began as an assistant professor in 1971, became tenured in 1981, a full professor in 1988, and served as the acting chair of the Physics & Astronomy Department from 1992-1994. He became full chair in 1994. In 2004, Dr. Nelson became Associate Dean of Research for the College of Arts & Sciences. In 2009, he served as interim chair of the Math Department.