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CONTACT

Ilias Kotsireas, Professor
Department of Physics and Computer Science
519-884-0710 ext. 2218 or ikotsireas@wlu.ca

Kevin Crowley, Director
Communications & Public Affairs, Wilfrid Laurier University
519-884-0710 ext. 3070 or kcrowley@wlu.ca

MARCH 18, 2016 | 064-16

Laurier lecture explains the importance of finding Einstein's gravitational waves

WATERLOO – **Shohini Ghose,** a professor in Wilfrid Laurier University's Department of Physics and Computer Science, will present a public lecture, entitled "Gravitational Waves and General Relativity for All," **March 22** at Laurier's Waterloo campus.

Theoretical physicist **Albert Einstein** predicted the existence of gravitational waves more than 100 years ago. In September of 2015, scientists detected gravitational waves created by the collision of two black holes over a billion years ago.

Ghose's lecture will discuss Einstein's general theory of relativity and how it led to his prediction of gravitational waves. Ghose will also explain the importance of this scientific discovery and how it impacts our understanding of the universe.

"This discovery opens whole a new window to the universe," said Ghose. "It provides a way to study amazing objects like black holes, and to explore the moments after the Big Bang that are a challenge to study with existing techniques."

Ghose is also the director of Laurier's Centre for Women in Science and a 2014 TED Fellow.

The lecture, part of a monthly series of talks sponsored by Laurier's Department of Physics and Computer Science, will be held **March 22** at **4 p.m.** in room **N1057** of the Science Building.

The event is free and open to the public. Prior knowledge of physics is not required.

For more information, please contact Ilias Kotsireas at 519-884-0710 x2218 or visit http://bohr.wlu.ca/seminars.

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