

THE 2025 SPRING SYMPOSIUM: INTER+STELLAR: Harnessing the Intersection Between Stars and the Interstellar Medium

May 12 - 16, 2025

Historically, stars and the ISM have mostly been studied individually, or only considered together in the context of star formation. However, this past decade of research has shown that many of the most exciting advances are powered by considering both stars and the ISM in unison.

This symposium will focus on how modern high-resolution observations, especially of the nearby Universe, allow us to harness stars and the ISM together in order to advance our understanding of both. The three main themes will be:

- ▶ Using stars to better understand the ISM (eg, via 3D extinction maps from Gaia data, supernova light-echos, absorption-line spectroscopy for interstellar depletions, and more)
- ▶ Using the ISM to better understand stars (eg, constraining the IMF with high-resolution ALMA data, observing highly-extinguished young clusters in nearby starbusts, etc)
- ▶ Understanding stars and the ISM together (eg, with radiative transfer modeling, hydrodynamic simulations, etc)

More and more astronomers harness stars and the ISM together. This approach is vital for answering key questions in our fields - for which future facilities like HabWords, ELTs, and a far-infrared probe will be key. This symposium will celebrate and exploit the ever-increasing intersection of stellar and ISM astronomy, for the puzzles of today and the questions of tomorrow.

INVITED SPEAKERS

Cara Battersby
(University of Connecticut)

Bob Benjamin
(University of Wisconsin - Whitewater)

Gregory Green
(Max Planck Institute for Astronomy)

Sarah Loebman
(University of California- Merced)

Mikako Matsuura
(Cardiff University)

Tim-Eric Rathjen
(University of Cologne)

Amelia Stutz
(Universidad de Concepción)

Grace Telford
(Princeton University)

Elizabeth Watkins
(University of Manchester)

SOC

Elizabeth Tarantino
(chair; STScI)

Christopher Clark
(co-chair; STScI)

Joshua Peek
(co-chair; STScI)

Yumi Choi
(NOIRLab)

Annalisa De Cia
(European Southern Observatory)

Ilse De Looze
(Ghent University)

Joel Green
(STScI)

Kathryn Kreckel
(Heidelberg University)

Mordecai-Mark Mac Low
(American Museum of Natural History)

Tom Megeath
(University of Toledo)

Karin Sandstrom
(University of California San Diego)

Catherine Zucker
(Smithsonian Astrophysical Observatory/Harvard CfA)

Adam Ginsburg
(University of Florida)

LOC

Hannah Bish
(STScI)

Steve Goldman
(STScI)

Logan Jones
(STScI)

Kirsten Larson
(STScI)

Christina Lindberg
(STScI/JHU)

Sumit Sarbadhicary
(JHU)

Adam Smercina
(STScI)

Shemiah Smith
(STScI)

Erik Tollerud
(STScI)

Mathieu Willems
(STScI/Ghent University)



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