



SACRAMENTO STATE

Department of Physics & Astronomy Spring 2006

## *Physics Colloquium Series*

### *“Galaxy Formation in a Cosmic Blender: Tidal Dwarf Galaxies and Molecular Gas in Stephan's Quintet”*

*Galaxy formation is normally thought of as a process that occurred in the distant past, and is therefore difficult to observe. I will present observations of galaxies believed to be forming here and now, in the local Universe. These galaxies, called tidal dwarf galaxies, are forming out of the debris pulled out of large spiral galaxies during close gravitational interactions. I will use my observations of dense molecular gas in these newly forming galaxies to address issues such as the permanence of these new galaxies, and the history of interactions in their parent group of galaxies, Stephan's Quintet.*

# **Christopher Taylor**

*California State University, Sacramento  
Department of Physics and Astronomy*

**Thursday, April 13, 2006**

**4:00-5:20 PM MND 1015**

**OPEN & FREE TO ALL STUDENTS, FACULTY & PUBLIC**