


## Meeting Minutes 3/2/18

- **ATOMM:** is still a thing, everyday 1-2:30pm in the Parker Library across from N305
- **TIMESTEP:** The next event will take place March 13th and 14th, hear from Dr. Nicole Cabrera Salazar, who will hold discussions about mental health and diversity in STEM.

**Dr. Nicole Cabrera Salazar**  
Discussions about Mental Health & Diversity in STEM



| March 13 <sup>th</sup>   | March 14 <sup>th</sup>  |
|--|---|
| <b>12 PM Lunch Chat with Nicole</b><br>@ Guerrero Center<br>(César E. Chávez Building)                 | <b>10 AM Practical Tools for Success in Academia</b><br>TIMESTEP Workshop<br>@ N305 Steward Observatory           |
| <b>5 PM Radical Self Care for Students of Color</b><br>TIMESTEP Workshop<br>@ N305 Steward Observatory | <b>12 PM Women in STEM Brown Bag Lunch</b><br>Women in Astronomy, Physics, & Optics<br>@ N305 Steward Observatory |
|  | <b>3 PM Beyond Outreach: How to Retain People of Color in STEM</b><br>@ N210 Steward Observatory                  |



- - **Student Research Opportunity: Black Holes**
    - Here's the link to the application: [Preview attachment PIRE Student Recruitment Flier March 2018 \(1\).pdf](#) [PIRE Student Recruitment Flier March 2018 \(1\).pdf](#) [269 KB](#)
    - If you have any questions, contact Rosie Johnson -> [rosiejohnson@email.arizona.edu](mailto:rosiejohnson@email.arizona.edu)

### Student Research Opportunity: Exploring Black Holes

All junior/senior undergrads interested in astronomy, physics, computer science, engineering, and/or math are encouraged to apply.



The PIRE project will engage undergraduates in the fascinating astrophysics of black holes and testing Einstein's theory of General Relativity. This opportunity is offered to junior and senior undergrad students and will begin April 2018. Both paid and for-credit assistantships are available.

- - **Don's Question of the Week**

- Look up During Spring Break! There will be a Conjunction (close approach) of Mercury and Venus; Mercury (near greatest eastern elongation); zodiacal light - the light reflected from the dust in the plane of the solar system; Messier marathon!
  - Conjunction will occur on March 2 and 3rd around sunset (6:15pm)
  - The “zodiacal light” - what time of year = best viewing opportunity? Equinoxes, zodiacal light needs to be perpendicular to surface.
  - Follow up to “Heiligenschein” -> the “Gegenschein” = “counter-glow” (<http://apod.nasa.gov/apod/ap120405.html> the glow in the middle) sunlight backscattered by interplanetary dust. Most of this dust is orbiting the Sun in about the ecliptic plane, with a possible concentration of particles at the L<sub>2</sub> Earth–Sun Lagrangian point. The intensity of the gegenschein is relatively enhanced, because each dust particle is seen in full phase.
  - What time of year = best viewing opportunity? March, when Milky Way is low in the sky
- **Astro News of the Week:** Presented by Steven Zhou-Wright!
    - <https://www.popularmechanics.com/space/deep-space/a19037771/star-to-pass-near-the-galaxys-supermassive-black-hole-testing-einsteins-theory-of-gravity/>
    - Einstein’s Theory of General Relativity is about to be tested by a star making a close approach to the black hole at the center of our galaxy
  - Some News from Yancy! The first stars! -> [https://mail.google.com/mail/u/0/?ui=2&ik=d9e534e023&view=att&th=161ed79ca7d1d408&attid=0.1&disp=safe&realattid=f\\_je7j8gz20&zw](https://mail.google.com/mail/u/0/?ui=2&ik=d9e534e023&view=att&th=161ed79ca7d1d408&attid=0.1&disp=safe&realattid=f_je7j8gz20&zw)
  - Don’t forget to sign up for Astro News of the Week! Talk about the cool space happenings!
  - **Star Parties:** We have one on March 26th at Donaldson Elementary from 5:30-7pm
  - **Laser Fun Day!** Will take place on April 7th 10am-3pm. Volunteers get a free tshirt, pizza, and eegees! AstroClub will be running the solar telescopes!
  - **Telescope Observing at Steward:** It’s still a thing! Monday-Thursday, 7-10pm!
  - **San Diego Trip:** All of the spots have been filled!
  - **Radio Project!** Astro club has some observing time at the 12 meter on Kitt Peak March 3, 4, 5th! The shift runs from noon-10pm. Spots are all filled up as of now.



- **Pay yo dues:** \$10 per semester. Due it.