

# THE ACCELERATING UNIVERSE

**BRIAN SCHMIDT**

**MONDAY, FEBRUARY 27**  
**JORDAN HALL**  
**ROOM 101**  
**7:00 PM**

*2011 Nobel Prize Winner in Physics for the discovery of the accelerating expansion of the universe through observations of distant supernovae.*

In 1998, two teams traced back the expansion of the universe over billions of years and discovered that it was accelerating, a startling discovery that suggests that more than 70% of the cosmos is contained in a previously unknown form of matter, called Dark Energy. His work on the accelerating universe was awarded the 2011 Nobel Prize in Physics, jointly with Adam Riess and Saul Perlmutter. Schmidt, who led the High-Redshift Supernova Search Team, will describe this discovery and explain how astronomers have used observations to trace our universe's history back more than 13 billion years, leading them to ponder the ultimate fate of the cosmos.

Currently, Schmidt is a distinguished professor at the Australian National University, a winner of the Shaw Prize in Astronomy and the Gruber Prize in Cosmology. He is a member of the National Academy of Sciences (US) and the Australian Academy of Sciences.



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Free and open to the public. Reception to follow.

The lecture is sponsored by the John A. Lynch Lecture Series and coordinated by the Department of Physics.