



# PHYSICS AND ASTRONOMY SEMINAR

## Dr. Greg Sivakoff

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### “Oddball Black Holes?”

#### Abstract

In 1974, Stephen Hawking and Kip Thorne made their famous bet about whether the X-ray binary Cygnus X-1 contained a black hole. 37 years later, black holes are a well-accepted part of astrophysics. Strong gravitational effects near their event horizon, relativistic jets, and potential links to galaxy formation are just part of today's tapestry of black holes. And while incredible information is being yielded by surveys like the Sloan Digital Sky Survey, which has found over 75,000 supermassive black holes, it is often the rare oddball sources that provide the greatest window on the astrophysics associated with black holes. In this talk, I discuss what some of the oddball black holes, including black holes in globular clusters and bulgeless galaxy, may be telling us. In particular, I focus on recent results on the supermassive black hole found in the blue compact dwarf galaxy Henize 2-10 and potential intermediate mass black hole in the M31 Globular Cluster G1.

Thursday, October 27, 2011

3:00 p.m.

Elliott Building

Room 161