



THE ASTRONOMY RESEARCH CENTRE

SPECIAL TALK

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"Get ready for the James Webb Space Telescope"

Abstract

The James Webb Space Telescope (JWST) is currently in its final phase of integration and scheduled for launch in the spring of 2019, with science operations to commence six months later. Equipped with four powerful science instruments, JWST will provide imaging and spectroscopy from 0.6 to 28 microns through numerous observing modes specifically designed to tackle a wide range of scientific investigations, from studying planets and moons of our Solar system, detecting the faintest galaxies in the early universe to probing the thin atmosphere of exoplanets transiting nearby bright stars. JWST is a partnership between NASA, the European Space Agency and the Canadian Space Agency. Canada's contributions include one of the four science instruments (NIRISS) and the Fine Guidance Sensor. For this hardware contribution, Canada will be allocated 450 hours of Guaranteed Time Observations (GTO) for the NIRISS science team and at least 5% of general (competed) observing time. The first (Cycle 1) call for proposals has been released. Now is the time for the Canadian astronomical community to get ready and prepare JWST proposals. This presentation will review the instrumental capabilities and performance of JWST, describe examples of GTO science programs and present an overview of the proposal preparation process.

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Wednesday, December 6, 2017

2:30 p.m.

Elliott Building

Room 167