

<b>Program – Galway Astrofest 2017</b> <b>Fri 27<sup>th</sup> Jan 2017 – Sat 28<sup>th</sup> Jan 2017</b> <b>Westwood House Hotel, Galway</b>		
Time	Event	Speaker
<b>Friday 27<sup>th</sup> Jan 2017</b>		
1900hrs	Free Observing session at the Club’s Dark Sky site in Bearna.	Weather dependant. Final announcement will be made on the Club’s Facebook page on Thurs 26 <sup>th</sup> Jan.
<b>Sat 28<sup>th</sup> Jan 2017</b>		
1000 – 1015	Opening Address and Welcome	TBC
1015 – 1115	Exploring the Cosmos – The View from Hubble and Beyond	<b>Dr. Deirdre Coffey</b> Assistant Professor, School of Physics, UCD
1115 – 1215	A Mayan Adventure in Historical Astronomy	<b>Dr. David Asher</b> Armagh Observatory & Planetarium
1215 - 1230	End Morning session and Introduction to Lunchtime workshops	
1230 - 1400	Lunch	
1400 - 1500	An Introduction to Space Law and the Challenges It Faces	<b>Dr. Zeldine O’Brien</b> Barrister
1500 - 1600	Robotic Exploration of the Solar System: Satellites to the Small Guys	<b>Dr. Wesley Fraser</b> Queens University Belfast
1600 - 1630	Tea/Coffee	
1630 - 1730	The Patrick Moore Memorial Lecture: <b>ET- Where are you?</b>	<b>Terry Moseley.</b> Irish Astronomical Association.
1730 - 1830	Guided Tour of the NUIG Astrphysics Department Observatory.	
1830 - 2030	Astrofest Evening Meal	
2030 – 2200	Table Quiz.	

A range of trade stands will be on show throughout the day on Saturday 28<sup>th</sup>, which will include information on Dark Sky Festivals, equipment displays by Ireland’s largest telescope retailer and collections of meteorites.

Free lunchtime workshops for all guests:

- Setting up and using a new telescope.  
Given a telescope for Christmas, or got one and having difficulty setting it up? This workshop will offer an easy to follow beginner's guide that takes you from opening the box to viewing celestial objects, and covers all the steps needed to get from the one to the other.
- Astronomical Drawing and Space Art, (particularly suitable for children).  
Presented by artist, astronomer and education Deirdre Kelleghan, this workshop offers an introduction to how to draw celestial objects such as the moon, planets and stars.

Free Planetarium:

Running alongside the lectures, and free for festival guests, Big Bear Planetariums will be setting up one of their mobile planetarium domes and running regular shows. These shows are particularly suited for children of all ages.