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September Meeting

Tuesday, September 12, 2006

The September 2006 meeting will be held at the Wellington Restaurant, located at 2121 S Arlington Heights Rd, Arlington Heights, IL 60005. See the map on the following page.

Mapping the Universe with the Sloan Digital Sky Survey

by Mark SubbaRao, Ph. D.

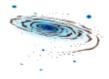
Adler Planetarium and Astronomy Museum / University of Chicago

The ongoing Sloan Digital Sky Survey is creating the largest map of the universe ever made. A dedicated 2.5 meter telescope at Apache Point New Mexico is six years into an eight year project to image one quarter of the sky and acquire spectra of over one million astronomical objects (galaxies, stars and quasars). An overview of the survey and its most important results will be given with particular emphasis on the spectroscopic results. The survey has already acquired the largest collection of astronomical spectra, and we will explore the full range of spectra seen: including unusual objects such as supernovae, carbon stars, dust enshrouded quasars and ultra cool white dwarfs. Finally, we will explore structure of this cosmic map, by flying through an interactive visualization of the 750,000 objects mapped so far.



Dinner Cost Members: \$25





Non-members: \$30

Please make your dinner reservations for the upcoming meeting by email at sas.chicago@bigfoot.com, by using the form on our web page < http://www.sas-chicago.org/Online%20Registration%20at%20Wellington.htm or by calling Mary Kaplar at 708-449-5767. Leave your name, company affiliation, a telephone number, the number of reservations and your choice of entree. Please call by noon Friday, Sept. 8th, so that proper arrangements can be made with the restaurant. If you can't attend, cancel by Mon. noon: SAS is charged for no-shows.

Entree choices: London Broil with Bordelaise Sauce, Breast of Chicken with Teriyaki Sauce, or Vegetarian Fettuccine.

Students and Unemployed Members: \$10 (No Shows may be Billed)

Biography of Mark SubbaRao, Ph. D.

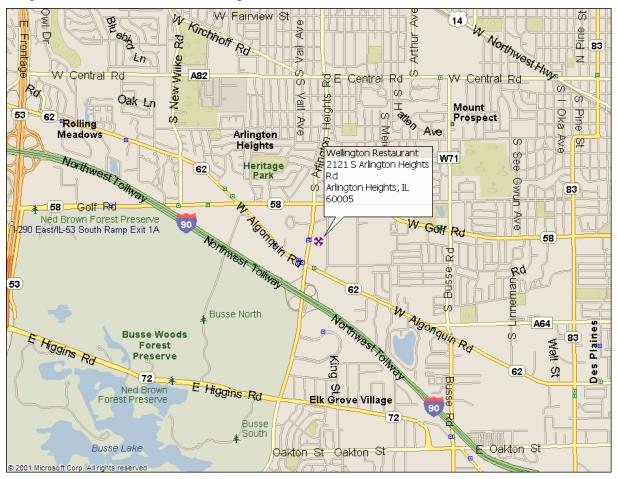
Mark SubbaRao received his BS in Engineering Physics from Lehigh University in 1990 and his Ph.D., from The Johns Hopkins University in 1996. His thesis concerned galaxy luminosity functions. He is a builder of the Sloan Digital Sky Survey and is a developer of its one dimensional spectroscopic pipeline. He currently holds a joint position between the University of Chicago where he is a research scientist, and the Alder Planetarium where he serves as Director of Visualization for their Space Visualization Laboratory.

His research interests concern cosmology and the large scale structure of the universe. He is also deeply interested in scientific visualization and in its use in communicating research results to the public.

DIRECTIONS TO THE WELLINGTON RESTAURANT

<u>From Chicago:</u> Take Interstate 90 (Northwest Tollway) west to Arlington Heights Road exit. Proceed north to the restaurant.

<u>From the southwest:</u> Take 355 north to Route 53 north and exit at Algonquin Road east. Go to Arlington Heights Road. Turn left (north) and proceed to the restaurant.



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