

Lectures on Astronomy and Astrochemistry by Prof. Brett McGuire (MIT), Thursday, September 7 & Friday, September 8.

The Department of Chemistry and the Department of Physics are delighted to host a public lecture by [Prof. Brett A. McGuire](#) from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT). This event will take place at UofL's [Gheens Science Hall & Rauch Planetarium](#) (106 W Brandeis Ave) on **Thursday, September 7**. The lecture is titled "A Century of Interstellar Molecular Discovery." It is open to UofL faculty, staff, students, and the general public. A reception will commence at 2 PM, with light drinks and refreshments available. The lecture will run from 2:30-3:30 PM.

On **Friday, September 8**, Prof. McGuire will present a scientific lecture in the Belknap Academic Building (BAB) 130 from 4 to 5 PM. The title of this lecture is "The PAH Revolution: Cold, Dark Carbon at the Earliest Stages of Star Formation."

Brett McGuire earned his B.S. in Chemistry from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign in 2009 and his Ph.D. in Physical Chemistry from the California Institute of Technology in 2014. He subsequently became a National Radio Astronomy Observatory (NRAO) Jansky Fellow and later a NASA Hubble Fellow from 2014-2020, working with both the NRAO and the Harvard & Smithsonian Center for Astrophysics. In 2020, he embarked on a faculty position at MIT and currently holds the title of the Class of 1943 Career Development Assistant Professor of Chemistry. With over 100 papers to his name, he's garnered Early-Career Awards from the American Chemical Society and the American Astronomical Society. McGuire is also actively involved in the planning and promotion of several next-generation astronomical observatories.

[The McGuire Group](#)'s research employs physical chemistry, molecular spectroscopy, and observational astrophysics to explore the chemical precursors to life and their role in the formation of stars and planets.

For any inquiries or to arrange a meeting with Prof. McGuire, please contact **Prof. Jinjun Liu** at j.liu@louisville.edu.