



Astronomical Society of India

Prof. M. K. Vainu Bappu Memorial Gold Medal award ceremony

Oct. 15, 2011 (Saturday)

Chadrasekhar Auditorium at IUCAA, Pune

Program

- 4:00pm Welcome and Introduction to Vainu Bappu Awards (Prof. Rajaram Nityananda, President ASI)
- 4:10pm Presentation of the medal to Dr. Nissim Kanekar
- 4:15pm Lecture by Dr. Nissim Kanekar
- 5:00pm Presentation of the medal to Dr. Niayesh Afshordi
- 5:05pm Lecture by Dr. Niayesh Afshordi
- 5:50pm Vote of Thanks (Prof. S. K. Pandey, Vice-President ASI)
- 6:00pm High Tea

All are Welcome

The Astronomical Society of India has instituted a fund in the memory of Professor M. K. Vainu Bappu with the objectives to promote knowledge of Astronomy and Astrophysics and honour the contributions made by young scientists, normally not beyond 35 years of age, from any part of the world, in the field of astronomy and astrophysics.

The Prof. M. K. Vainu Bappu memorial gold medal for the year 2008 will be awarded jointly to Dr. Niayesh Afshordi (Perimeter Institute) and Dr. Nissim Kanekar (NCRA).

Dr. Niyaesh Afshordi has made wide ranging and insightful contributions in a variety of areas of Cosmology, Structure formation in the universe and the physics of accretion. Particularly noteworthy are his work to probe dark energy using both data from the Cosmic Microwave background and galaxy surveys and his ideas to constrain primordial non-gaussianity.

Dr. Nissim Kanekar has made imaginative use of radio astronomy techniques to probe the variation of fundamental constants of physics. His work has also resulted in enlarging significantly the sample of high redshift galaxies detected through their 21 cm absorption, and to a greater understanding of the physical conditions and evolution of their interstellar media.

Secretary (ASI)