

**Geology Open Night**  
**Friday, January 28, 2022**

Virtual; 7:30PM

For more information, visit

<https://www.stonybrook.edu/commcms/geosciences/outreach/GeologyOpenNight>

Prof. Joel Hurowitz

**One year after landing –  
An update on the Mars 2020 Perseverance rover's mission to Jezero crater, Mars**

The Mars 2020 Perseverance rover landed in Jezero crater on Mars on February 18, 2021. Since that time, the Mars 2020 rover science team has conducted field reconnaissance and analysis of two major geological units on the floor of Jezero crater and collected 7 samples (1 atmospheric sample and 6 rock samples) that will eventually be returned to Earth for further, in-depth analysis. Her companion, the Ingenuity helicopter, conducted the first ever powered, controlled flight by an aircraft on another planet, and continues operating as a scout vehicle for the rover. This update will discuss Perseverance and Ingenuity's operations, the discoveries that have been made using the rover's scientific instrument payload, and what the precious samples collected by the rover might teach us about the geological and astrobiological history of the Red Planet.

Joel Hurowitz is a geochemist and planetary scientist working on the exploration of Mars and the study of modern and ancient Mars analog environments on Earth. He is the deputy principal investigator of one of seven instruments, called PIXL, which was selected for the science payload of the Mars 2020 rover mission. Dr. Hurowitz received his Ph.D. from Stony Brook University working under the supervision of Dr. Scott McLennan. He was a Caltech postdoctoral scholar at the Jet Propulsion Laboratory in 2006–2007 working with Dr. Albert Yen. From 2007 to 2013, Dr. Hurowitz was a research scientist at the NASA Jet Propulsion Laboratory. In 2013, he joined the faculty of the Department of Geosciences at Stony Brook University where he is an assistant professor.

Register here for the zoom presentation: [Geology Open Nights | Department of Geosciences](#)

**Astronomy Open Night**  
**Friday, February 4, 2022**

Virtual; 7:30PM

For more information, visit

<http://www.astro.sunysb.edu/opennight/>

Prof. Jim Lattimer

**The Latest Discoveries about Neutron Stars**

Register here for the zoom presentation: [Astronomy Registration Form](#)

**Living World Open Night (Darwin Day)  
Friday, February 11, 2021**

Virtual; 7:30PM

For more information: <https://you.stonybrook.edu/opennights/>

Prof. Chris Simon

**The Evolution of 13- and 17-year Periodical Cicadas; Insects that Count (in fours)?**

The 13- and 17-year periodical cicadas are popular model organisms in evolution and ecology because they predictably appear in enormous, recklessly theatrical, emergences; have a complex biogeography shaped by both spatial and temporal isolation; and include three largely sympatric, parallel species groups that are evolutionary replicates. Magicicada are also relatively easy to capture and manipulate and their spectacular, synchronized mass emergences facilitate citizen science opportunities. I will highlight exciting new developments related to allochronic and parallel speciation, the evolution of 13- and 17-year periodical life cycles, The importance of Magicicada endosymbionts and plans for future genomics research.

Chris Simon is a Professor in the Department of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology at the University of Connecticut (UConn). She received her BS & MS degrees from the University of Florida and her PhD from SUNY Stony Brook. Projects in her laboratory focus on the systematics, biogeography, and evolution of cicadas and their symbionts worldwide, the application of information on molecular evolutionary processes to the improvement of tree-building, speciation and its relationship to past climates and landforms, the evolution of periodical life cycles, and molecular evolution of the secondary structure of ribosomal RNA. In 2016, Chris Simon was elected an Honorary Fellow of the Royal Society of New Zealand. Her publications since 1994 have attracted more than 13,000 citations. More than 30 undergraduate researchers, 20 graduate students and ten postdoctoral researchers have trained in her laboratory. She credits her success to their enthusiasm, dedication, and hard work.

Register here for access to the zoom presentation: [Living World Registration Form](#)

**Physics Open Night**  
**Friday, February 18, 2022**

Virtual; 7:30PM

For more information, visit

<http://www.astro.sunysb.edu/opennight/>

Prof. Chang Kee Jung

**TBD**

Register here for the zoom presentation: [World of Physics Registration Form](#)

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**Friday, January 28, 2022**

Virtual; 7:30PM

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Prof. Qingyun Li

**TBD**

Register here for the zoom presentation: [Geology Open Nights | Department of Geosciences](#)

Please note that most lectures for Fall 2022 will be delivered via Zoom. World of Physics lectures will be held in room ESS 001 and will also be broadcast on Zoom.

Please visit the Open Nights Website at:

<https://you.stonybrook.edu/opennights/news/> and click on the respective links below each Open Night Event for more information on how to join or register.