



College of  
Science  
Department of Physics  
& Astronomy

202 Nicholson Hall  
Baton Rouge, LA 70803  
TEL: 225-578-2261  
FAX: 225-578-5855  
<http://www.lsu.edu/physics>

# Weekly Calendar and News

Dec. 5-9, 2016

## LSU Physics & Astronomy in the News

- Tabetha Boyajian discusses “Tabby’s Star” with Science Friday: “If long-term dimming is indeed occurring, then whatever’s causing it is also probably causing the temporary dips in the star’s luminosity,” says Boyajian. “Basically, whatever theory you come up with to explain one [phenomenon] has to actually explain both of them, just due to Occam’s razor” (the idea that the simplest of two competing theories is preferred),” she says. <http://www.sciencefriday.com/articles/what-happens-if-we-detect-extraterrestrial-intelligence/>
- [Slightly more sensitive, LIGO resumes hunt for gravitational waves](#): The detectors are starting the new run with about 10% better sensitivity than they had during the previous observing run, says Gabriela González, a physicist at Louisiana State University in Baton Rouge, and spokesperson for the 1000-member LIGO Scientific Collaboration. That means they can detect sources 10% farther into space. The plan is to take 6 months of data over the next calendar year, González says.
- Joseph Giaime talked with Business Insider: “LIGO's scientific and operational staff have been working hard for the past year and are enthusiastic to restart round-the-clock observations,” <http://sports.yahoo.com/news/giant-experiment-cracked-100-mystery-195400842.html>

## Events

- [Final Exam Period](#)  
December 5, 2016, 7:00 AM - December 10, 2016
- Friday Night Lecture Series: "[The Star of Bethlehem](#)"  
December 9, 2016, 7:30 PM at [Highland Rd. Park Observatory](#)
- [College of Science Diploma Ceremony](#)  
Friday, December 16, 2016, 9:00 AM Maddox Fieldhouse

LSU COLLEGE OF SCIENCE



Fall Diploma  
Ceremony

Friday, December 16 , 9 a.m.  
Maddox Fieldhouse

*View the ceremony live at [science.lsu.edu](http://science.lsu.edu)*