

# PHYSICS DEPARTMENT

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## COLLOQUIUM

### “Making Massive Black Hole Binaries”

By Dr. Matthew Benacquista

Univ. of Texas Rio Grande Valley

**September 9, 2016**

**Cavalry Conference Room (Brownsville)**

**PHYS 1.113 (Edinburg)**

**10:50am – 12:20pm**

**Abstract:** The recent detection of gravitational waves from the inspiral and merger of binary black hole systems shows that such systems exist in the universe. However, there are several theoretical challenges in modeling the evolution of the progenitor systems to these mergers. I will discuss several models for the formation of black hole binary systems, pointing out their difficulties.