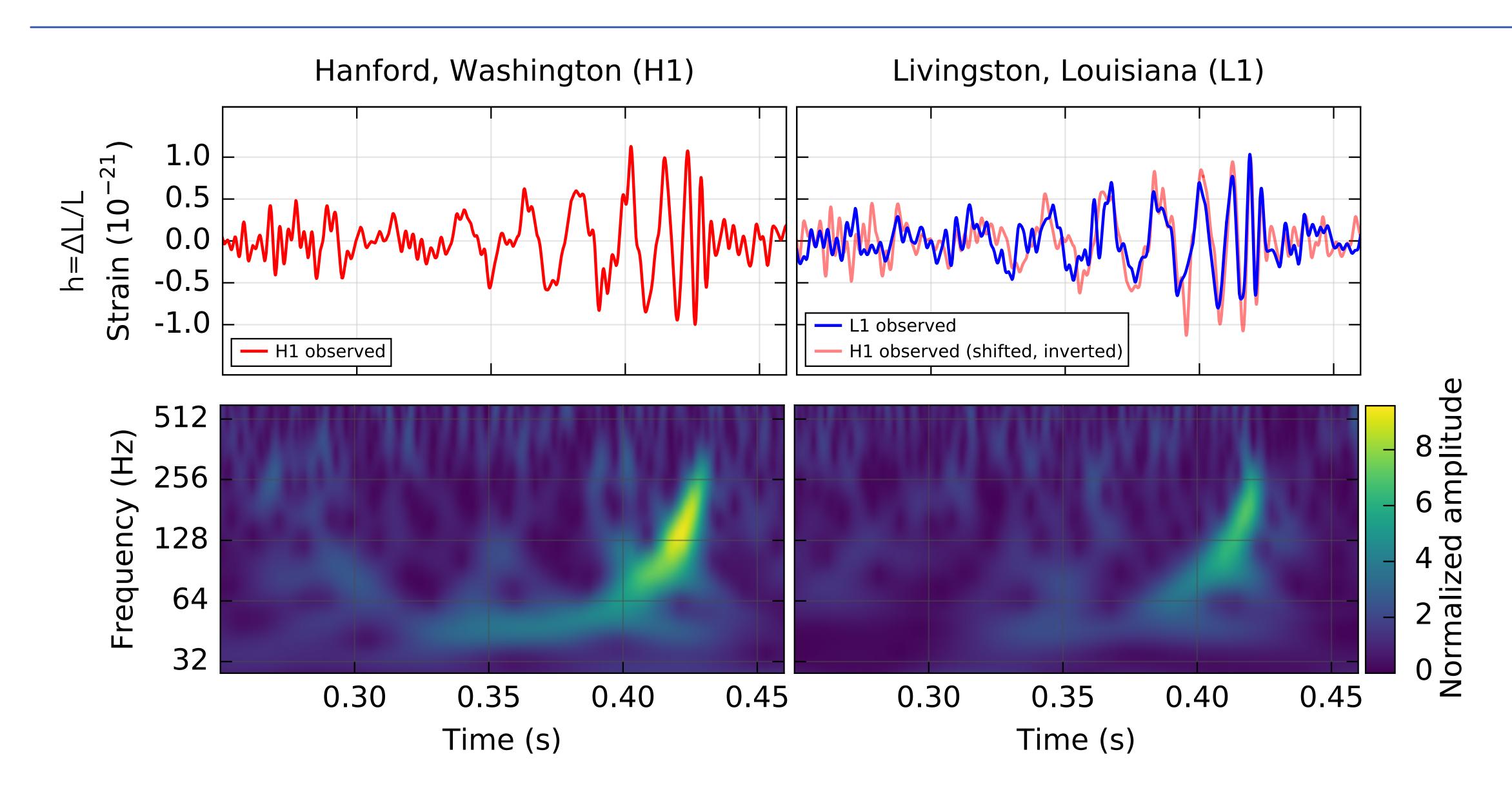
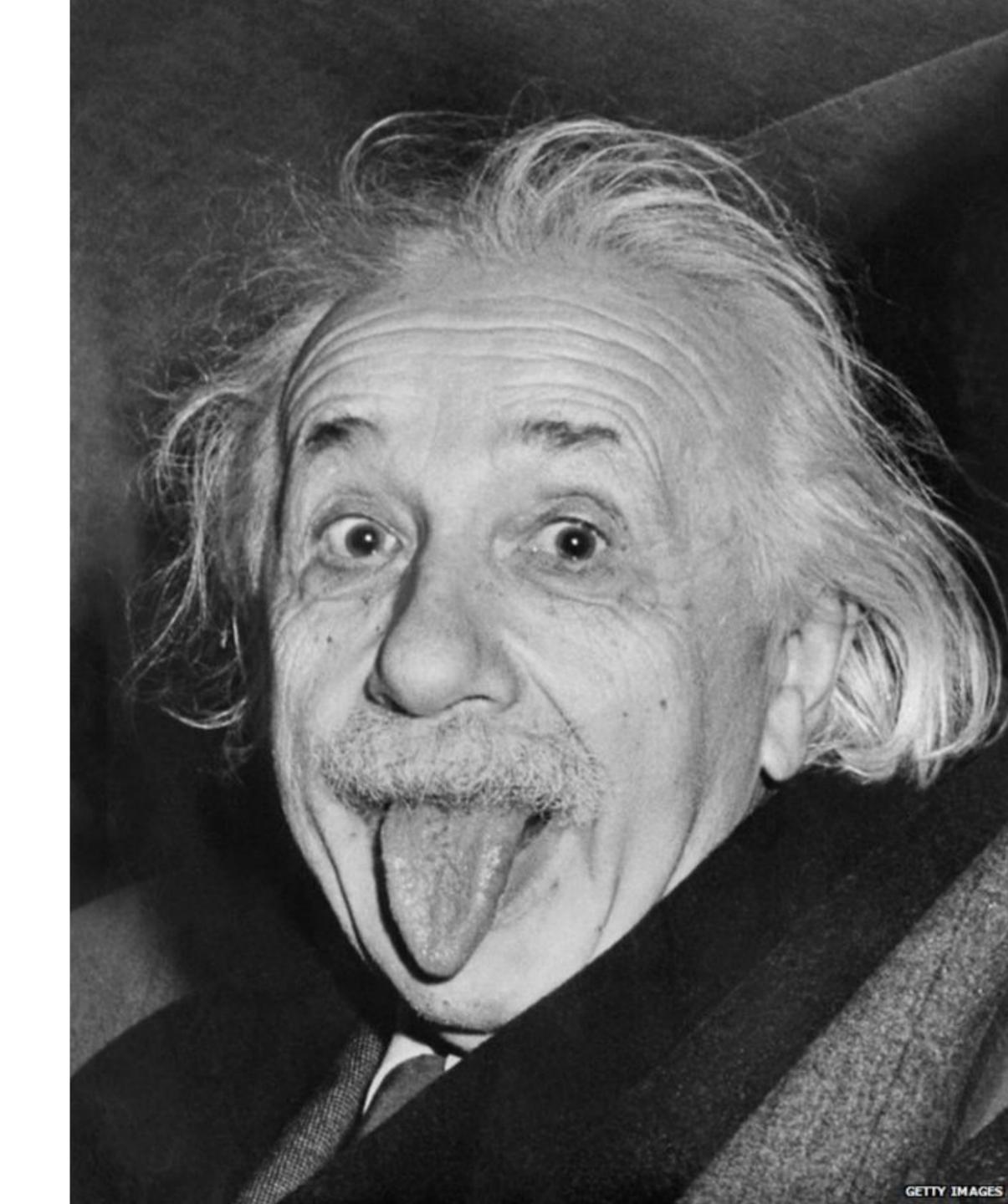


## GW150914 - observed signal



## There's another way to do astronomy...

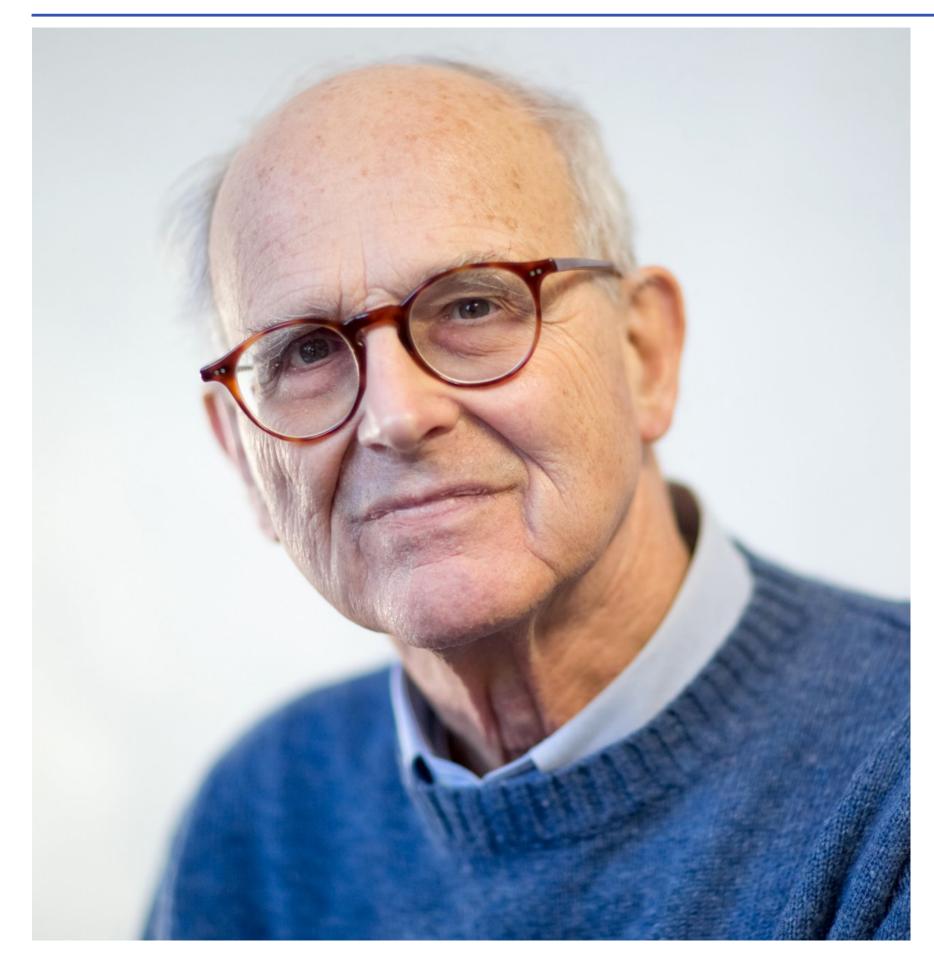
Albert Einstein - general relativity (1915)

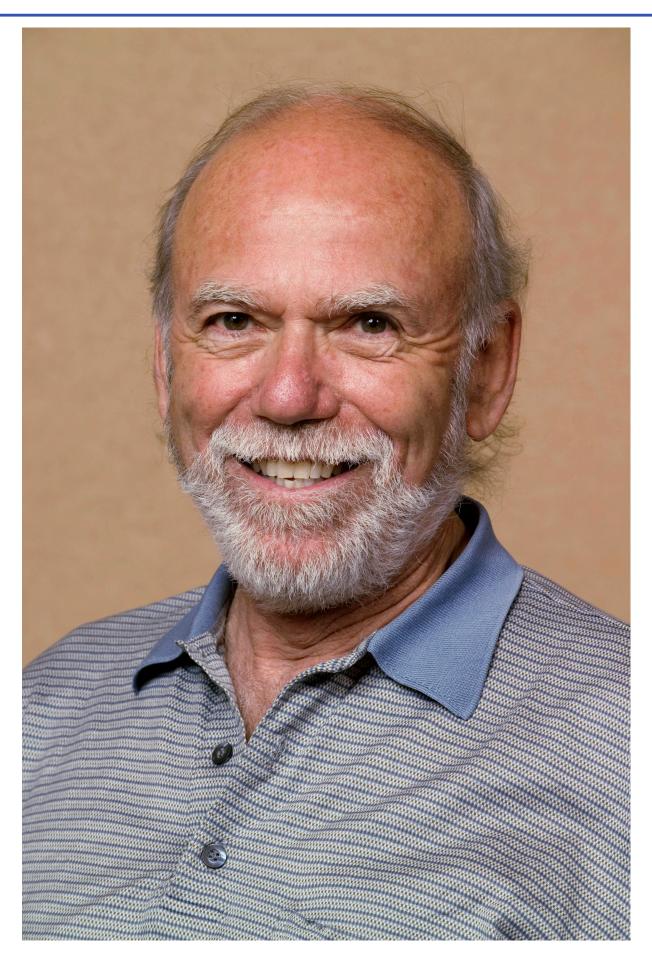


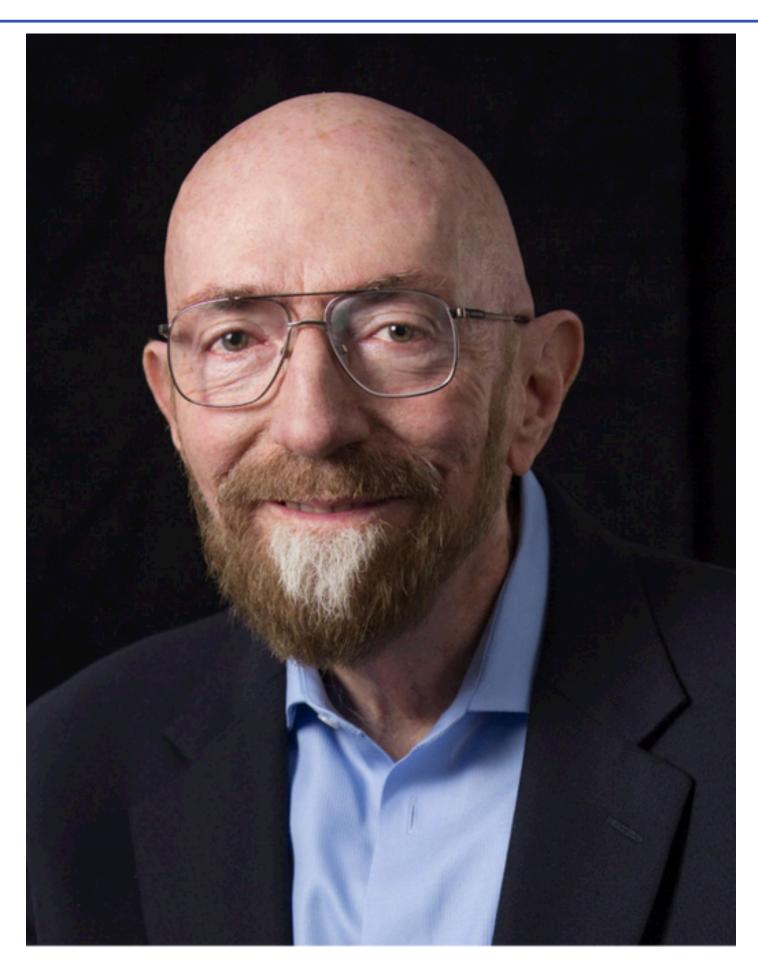


"Was that you I heard just now or was it two black holes colliding?

## 2017 Nobel Prize in Physics







Rai Weiss Barry Barish Kip Thorne





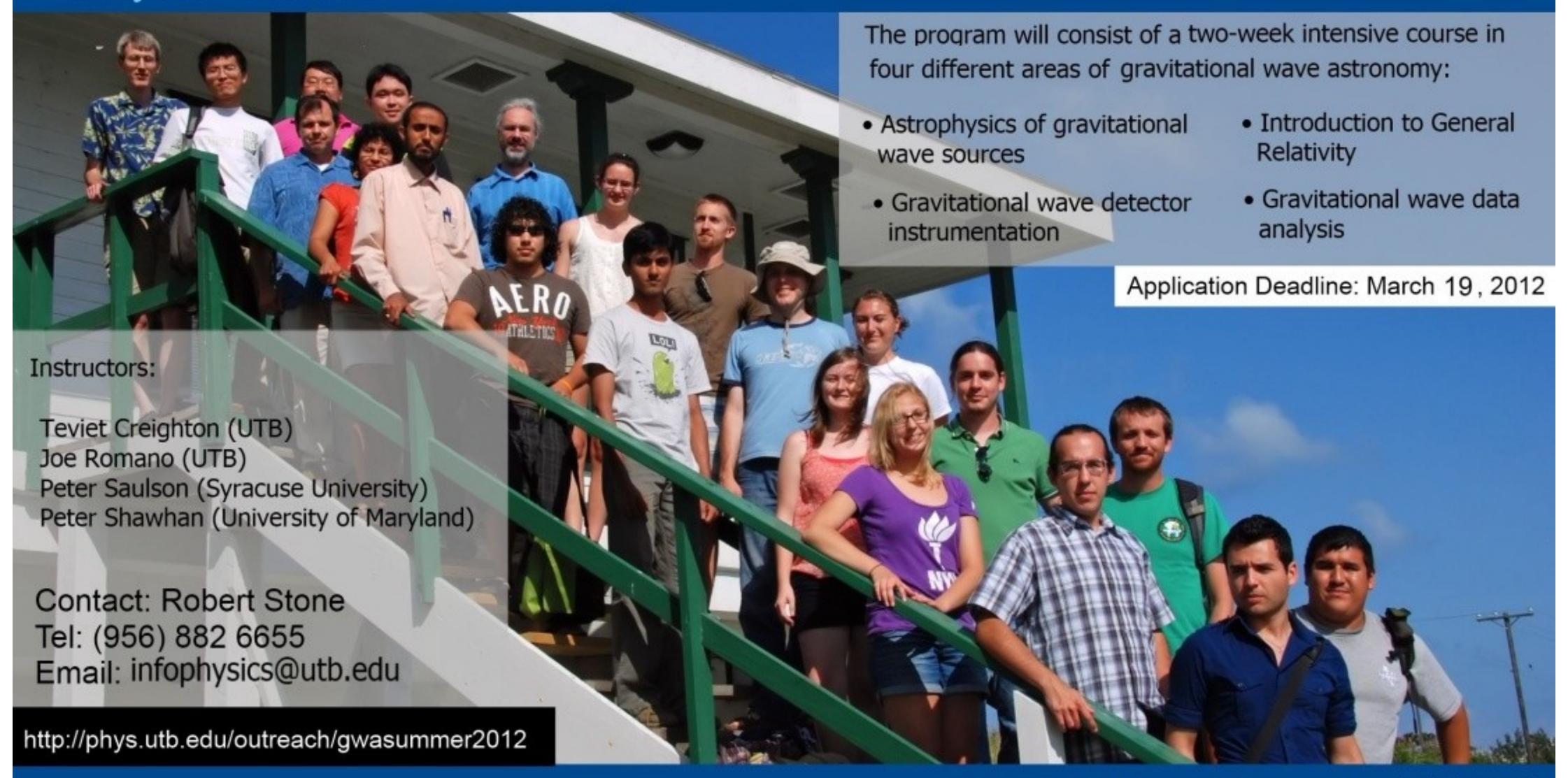






## 8th Gravitational Wave Astronomy Summer School at South Padre Island, TX

May 28 - June 8



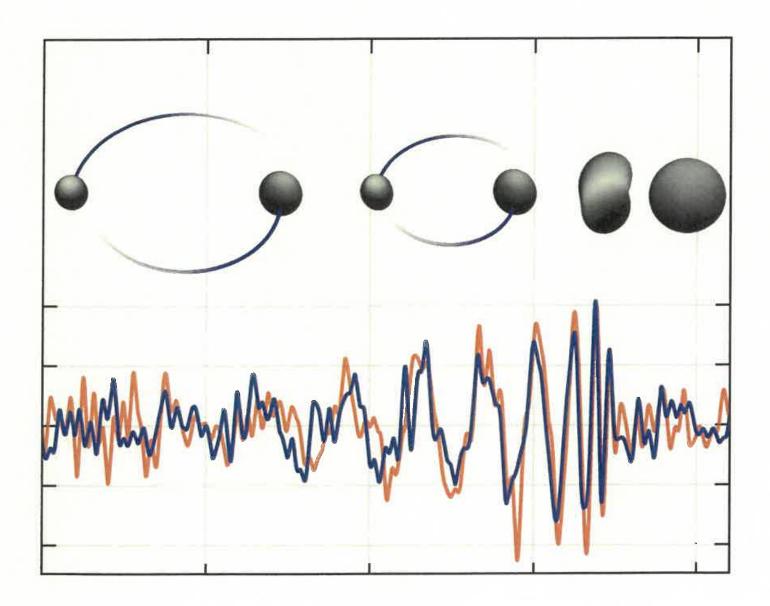
BROWNSVILLE





# PHYSICAL REVIEW LETTERS

12 February 2016

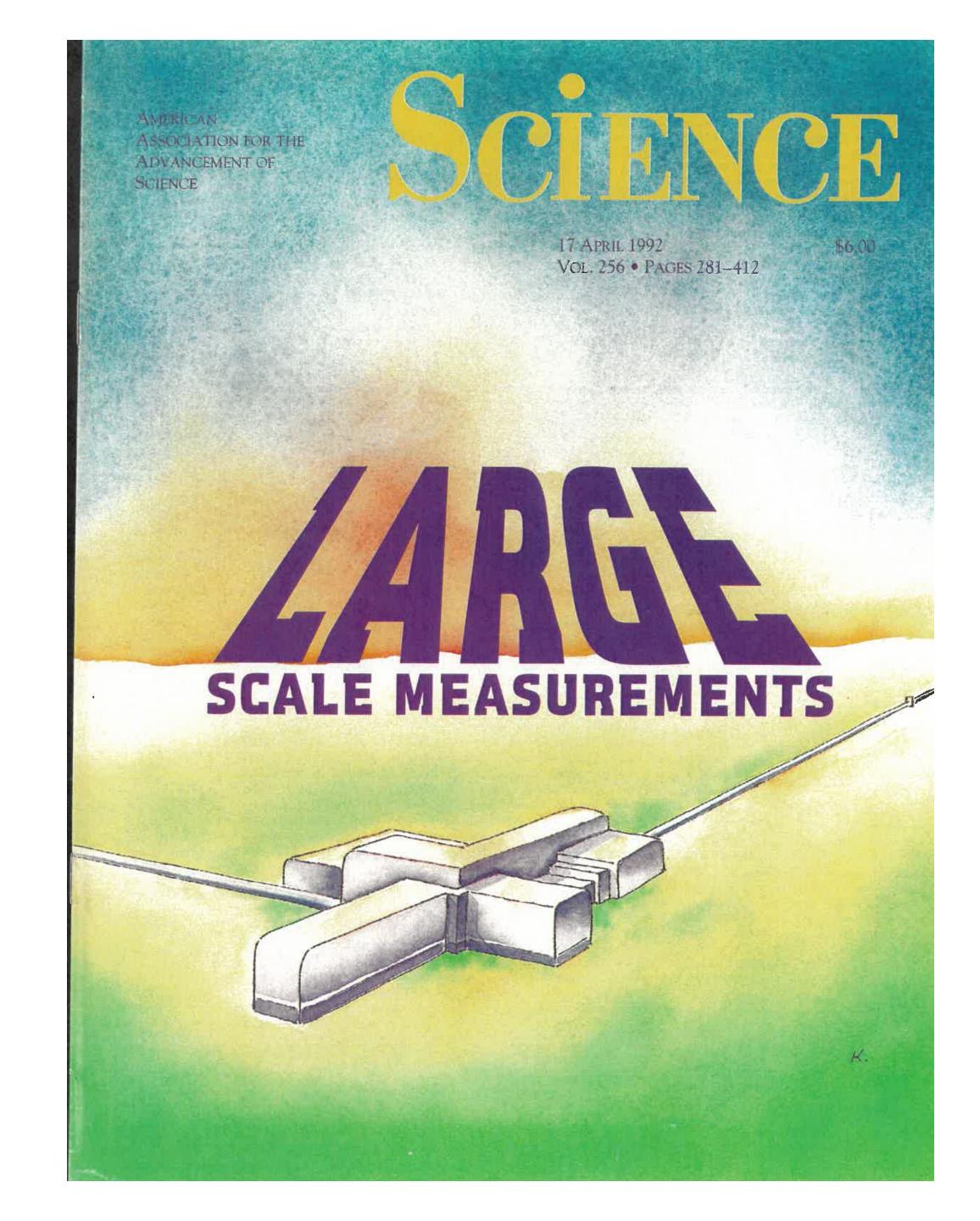


Articles published week ending

Published by
American Physical Society™



Volume 116, Number 6





## LIGO MAGAZINE



## LIGO Scientific Collaboration News



Gaby (Gabriela) González LSC spokesperson

long journey and the beginning of a new adventure: gravitational-wave astronomy. adventure. On that day, a feeble ripple of space time was turned into a visible (and audible!) signal by our LIGO detectors, two of the most incredible devices ever built by humankind. That ripple of space time briefly crossing paths with Earth after a billion year long voyage through the depths of space brought us GW150914, the first ever direct detection of a gravitational wave. GW150914 brings to a conclusion the long journey to directly detect gravita-

September 14, 2015 marks the end of a tional waves. It also opens the way to a new

Since 2008, when Advanced LIGO was funded, many people were involved in installation and commissioning to make the Advanced LIGO detectors a reality - this was hard work, invisible to most people outside the LIGO detectors, but of course the heart of the discovery. Since 2010, the LSC has been not only analyzing initial LIGO and Virgo data, but also tuning search codes to make the best of the Advanced LIGO detec-



## RIOT IN PRISON



SEASONED

PLAYERS The Falcons have brought back a solid, battle-tested group to the field this year that is led by some standout seniors. They include center midflelder Ivan Jimenez, centra defender Juen Lozoya, goalkeeper Jorge Medina and forwards Eric Areliano and Gustavo Okmedo.



Crossings

**U**PGRADES The Brownsville Public Library System is several steps closer to receiving 359 new Dell computers



Good Morning! Thank you for reading today's edition of The Brownsville Herald



UTRGV physicists help observe gravitational waves



**Above and below:** University of Texas Rio Grande Valley faculty, staff and students listen to a web simulcast Thursday about the detection of gravitational waves at facilities in Louisiana and Washington.

Former LIGO director reflects on historic wave detection

## Zapata family suing bank

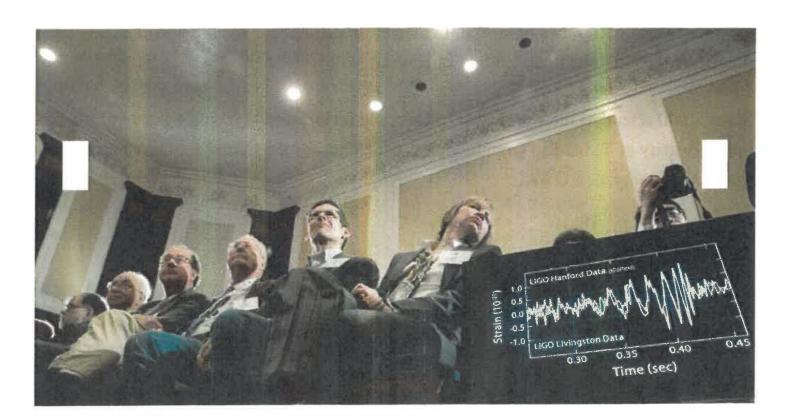
Lawsuit: Lack of measures to halt laundering

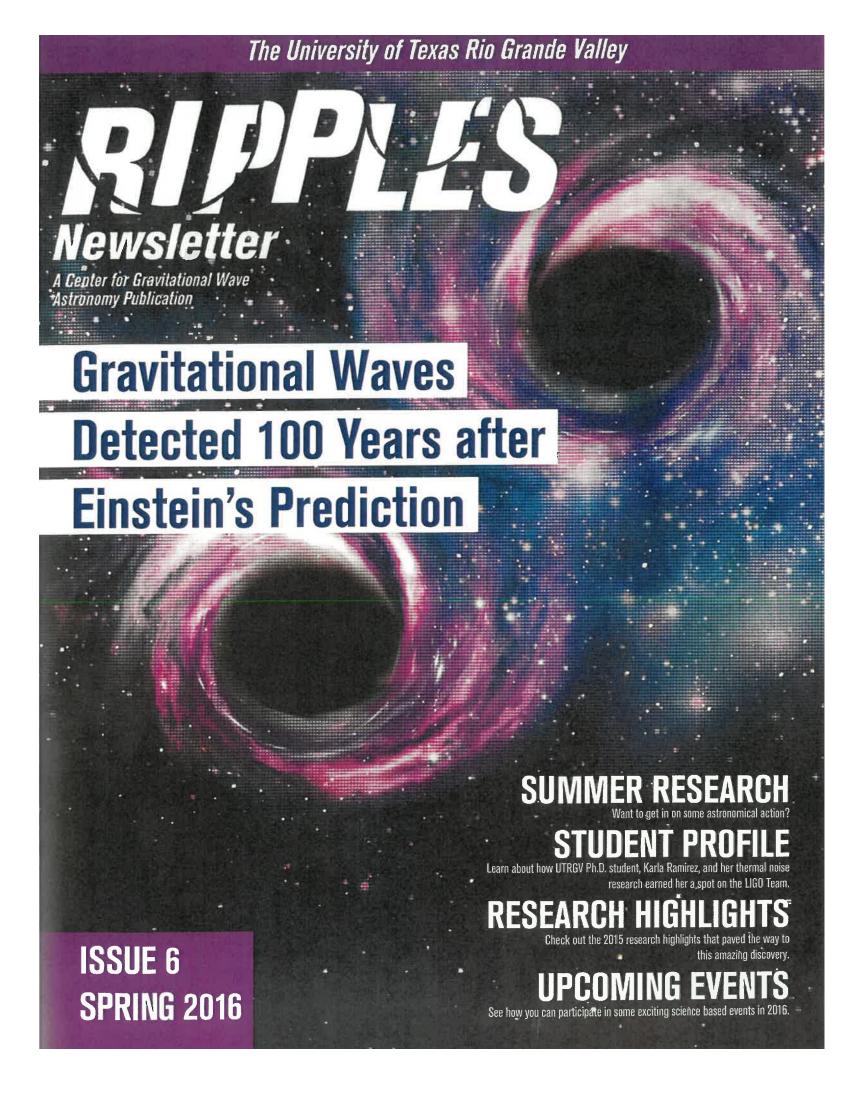
## San Antonio Express-News Only \$1 per Week / All Digital Access ExpressNews.com | eEdition | iPad app

## UT-RGV physicists played role in breakthrough discovery

By Bruce Selcraig, Staff Writer | February 11, 2016 | Updated: February 12, 2016 12:26am

Local





## Educational accountability discussed in Brownsville

STAFF WRITER

There was little disagreement among educators at a meeting Thursday in Brownsville Tleast system of public achool student assessment and accountability needs improvement, educators said.

At a town hall meeting sponsored by District 2 State Board of Education member Ruben Cortez of Brownsville and the Brownsville Independent School District, there was a general contract of the contract of Brownsville Independent School District, there was a general contract of the contract of Brownsville Independent School District, there was a general contract of the contract of Brownsville Independent School District, there was a general contract of the contract of Brownsville Independent School District, there was a general contract of the contract of the



McIntyre speaks on accountability for Texas Brownsville Independent School

MIGUEL BODESTES/THE

District, there was a general con-sensus that the state's current





## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## **Gravitational Waves Detected 100** Years after Einstein's Prediction

- ❖ LIGO Opens New Window on the Universe with Observation of Gravitational Waves from Colliding Black Holes
- ❖ UTRGV's CGWA Scientists Contribute with Nearly 20 Years of Gravitational Wave Research

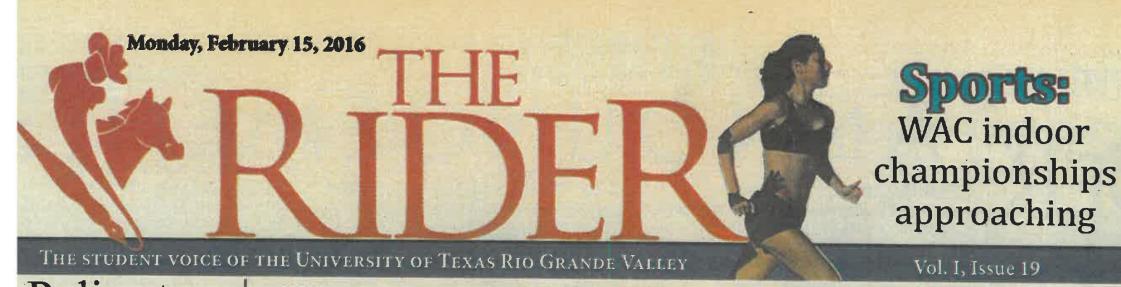
WASHINGTON, D.C. / RIO GRANDE VALLEY, TEXAS - FEB. 11, 2016 - For the first time, scientists have observed ripples in the fabric of spacetime called gravitational waves, arriving at the earth from a cataclysmic event in the distant universe.

This confirms a major prediction of Albert Einstein's 1915 general theory of relativity, and opens an unprecedented new window onto the cosmos.

Gravitational waves carry information about their dramatic origins and about the nature of gravity that cannot otherwise be obtained. Physicists have concluded that the detected gravitational waves were produced during the final fraction of a second of the merger of two black holes to produce a single, more massive spinning black hole. This collision of two black holes had been predicted, but never observed.

The gravitational waves were detected at 5:51 a.m. (EDT) on Sept. 14, 2015, by both of the twin Laser Interferometer Gravitational-wave Observatory (LIGO) detectors, located in Livingston, Louisiana, and Hanford, Washington. The LIGO Observatories are funded by the National Science Foundation (NSF), and were conceived, built and are operated by Caltech and MIT.

The discovery, accepted for publication in the journal Physical Review Letters, was made by the LIGO Scientific Collaboration (which includes the GEO Collaboration and the Australian Consortium for Interferometric Gravitational Astronomy) and the Virgo Collaboration, using data from the two LIGO detectors.



Police to meet with rosecutors n slap case

> Jesus Sanchez ÉDITOR IN CHIEF



University Police will meet with prosecutors from Edinburg Municipal Court this week to

discuss the case which a UTRGV professor gedly slapped a student last nth, officials say.

We've interviewed various dents about [the case]," RGV Police Chief Raul nguia said. "... From our l, it still looks like it's a class misdemeanor. We will be efing it with the prosecutors r at the municipal court just get another opinion."

In Jan. 21, a student on the nburg campus reported that philosophy class was having liscussion about right and ong and while the discussion

## Groundbreaking discovery

Gravitational waves confirmed, will help map universe

Oscar Castillo

cientists announced Thursday gravitational waves do exist, calling it a "fundamental science discovery.'

"Ladies and gentlemen, we--have detected--gravitational waves. We did it," David Reitze, LIGO Laboratory executive director, told a roaring crowd during a news conference that was live streamed in the Student Union's Gran Salón in Brownsville.

The UTRGV Center for Gravitational Wave Astronomy (CGWA), a member of LIGO, the conference the National Press Club in Washington, D.C., where Reitze announced the existence of gravitational waves, which were observed Sept. 14 by the two Laser Interferometer Gravitationalwave Observatories (LIGO).

During the presentation Reitze compared the discovery to Galileo's work, which started the era of modern observational



Joey Shapiro Key, director of education and outreach for the Center for Gravitational Wave Astronomy and an assistant research professor of physics, is interviewed Thursday by the news media after scientists announced the discovery of

18

## In Memory of Dr. Cristina Torres



Dr. Cristina Torres and members of the Society of Physics Students after a Physics Circus community outreach event.





## WITH LIFE

From their relationships to their jobs to their money — even from the time they first roll out of bed — young white Americans are happier with life than their minority counter-

## SCIENCE



DEJA VU

Even as the wounded space shut-tle Endeavour brought its seven launches at risk for the same kind o

damage.

The 3½-inch-long gouge in Endeavour's belly did not put the astronauts at risk. And as soon as the damaged tiles are popped off, engi-neers will know whether repairs are needed to the underlying aluminum structure. The gash seemed to weath-er the return flight well, NASA said. But for the early part of

Endeavour's 13-day mission ther was an eerie sense of deja vu.

## EDUCATION

## TOOLS FOR TEACHING

Incarnate Word Academy has upgraded from chalkboard to SMART Board. Now, thanks to the new technology, teachers have various multi-media tools at their disposal that can enrich class time, parents and teach

VELA FUNERAL

Parking was scarce, and open seats in the pews and bal-cony were non-existent Tuesday

arrived less than 30 minutes before local football coaching legend Robert Vela's funeral at Sacred

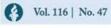
> PAGE B1

Benedicta Ybarra Librada Benavides Raul Sergio Suarez Emile O. Champion Ramon G. Rosales

## MOST VIEWED

- ➤ Dean headed south ➤ Valley's reprieve Caught on tape

BrownsvilleHerald.com



Good Morning! Thank you for reading today's edition of The Brownsville Herald > YATES CASE: LAWYERS' HE-SAID, HE SAID HEATS UP IN YATES CASE, AS DEFENSE MOVES TO DISQUALIFY DISTRICT ATTORNEY, PAGE A2

## **Hurricane Dean slams into Mexico**

along a sparsely populated coastline, well to the south of the major resorts where CARRILLO

CARRILLO

CARRILLO

CARRILLO

along a sparsely populated coastline, well to the south of the major resorts where 50,000 tourists had been Category 5 again, but it will

PUERTO, Mexico — evacuated. still be powerful."

Hurricane Dean slammed into the Caribbean coast of Mexico on Tuesday as a roar-imput sustained winds of 85

Mexico on Tuesday as a roar-imput sustained winds of 85

Majahual, it had sustained winds of 85 Mexico on Tuesday as a roaring Category 5 hurricane,
the most intense Atlantic
storm to make landfall in
two decades. It lashed
remote Mayan villages as it
raced across the Yucatan
Peninsula to the heart of

Majahual, it had sustained
winds of 85
mph, but was expected to
grow back into a powerful
hurricane as it draws fuel
from the warm waters of the
remote Mayan villages as it
raced across the Yucatan
Peninsula to the heart of

Majahual, it had sustained
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mph, but was expected to
grow back into a powerful
hurricane as it draws fuel
from the warm waters of the
remote Majahual, it had sustained
winds near 165 mph and
guts that reached 200 mph
— faster than the takeoff
speed of many passenger
jets. It had an expected
to
speed of many passenger
jets. It had an expected
to
winds near 165 mph and
guts that reached 210 mph
— faster than the takeoff
speed of many passenger
jets. It had sustained
winds near 165 mph and
guts that reached 210 mph
— faster than the takeoff
storm surge of 12 to 18 feet



Mexico's oil industry.

Dean's path was a stroke of luck for Mexico: After killing 13 people in the Caribbean, it made landfall

We often see that when a storm weakens, people let down their guard complete ly. You shouldn't do that,"

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

A ripped out tree is seen Tuesday in a street in downtown Chetumal, southeastern Mexico in the Yucatan peninsula.

## EYES ON THE SKY



## Allstate ordered to ditch rate ıncrease

BY ELIZABETH PIERSON HERNANDEZ THE BROWNSVILLE HERALD

AUSTIN - The Texas insur ance commissioner on Tuesday ordered Allstate not to implemen a homeowner's rate increase the company had announced the day efore. The Commissioner also said

approval

Texas

of Insurance before it

in the future.

Anstate flied notice with the Texas Department of Insurance that it would raise rates by 5.9 percent, effective immediately, for the 9 1 7, 0 0 0 homeowners

Allstate will have to receive prior 'We're seeing record profits for about the last three years across the board for most

insurance companies, and it's, frankly, time that they pass do not yet have an estisome savings mated compledown to

**Boris Torres** 

on the

nd Texas

and Guillermo

Office of Public Insurance

consumers.

increase w o u l d customers

renewal
notices, the company said.
On top of that, customers
statewide would have to pay
another 2 percent increase, on
average, for the company's reinsurance costs, with coastal residents paying the most and those
inland paying less, said Bill
Mellander, spokesman for
Allstate

PLEASE SEE ALLSTATE, A12

pany to the attorney general's office about two months ago,

Kelley said. It was unclear how

## Group sued for selling fake citizenship documents

## BY ANDRES R. MARTINEZ THE MONITOR

'We have not seen a case like this, so brazen' EDINBURG — The Texas attorney general sued an Edinburg pas-

tor and two others in connection

The civil lawsuit alleges that Edinburg pastor Victor Ramirez worked as a representative of Kaweah Indian Nation Inc., a company based out of Wichita, Kan.

Webber and Ralph Tipton of San Antonio were also sued. They promised those who bought the certificates automatic U.S. citizenship, according to the suit. The alleged as a Barriera could not be contacted late Tuesday.

The investigation began after the Texas Civil Rights Project forwarded complaints about the complex of the Intermediative promised those who bought the certificates automatic U.S. citizenship.

Tom Kelley, spokesman for Texas Attorney General Gred Abbott many people were defrauded, Kelley said. According to a letter on the Project's Web site, there have been

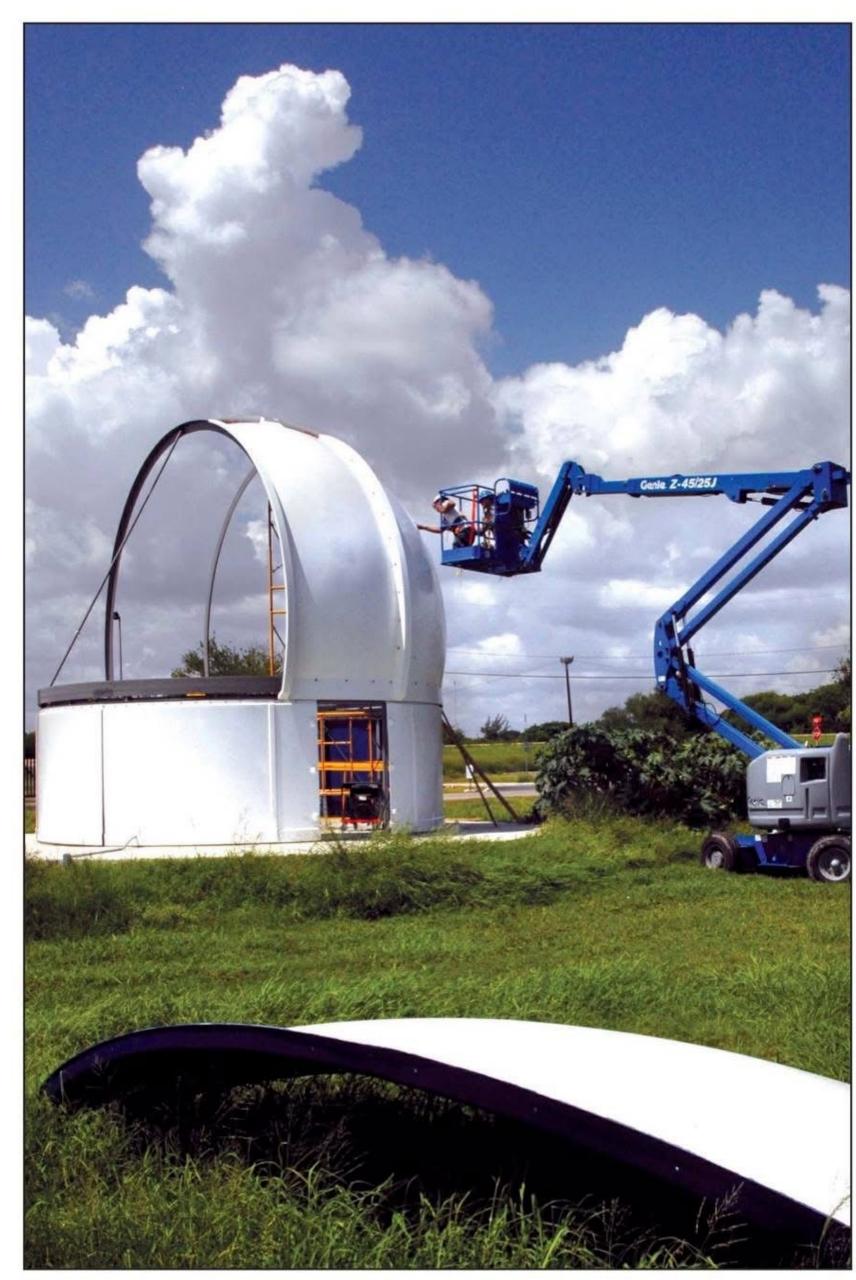
tor and two others in connection with a company that promised people U.S. citizenship if they bought a fake tribal citizenship certificate for \$400.

"We have not seen a case like this, so brazen," said Tom Kelley, a spokesman for the attorney general.

The civil lawsuit alleges that the formulation were also sued. They are also sued. They are

PLEASE SEE FRAUD, A12

## EYES ON THE SKY

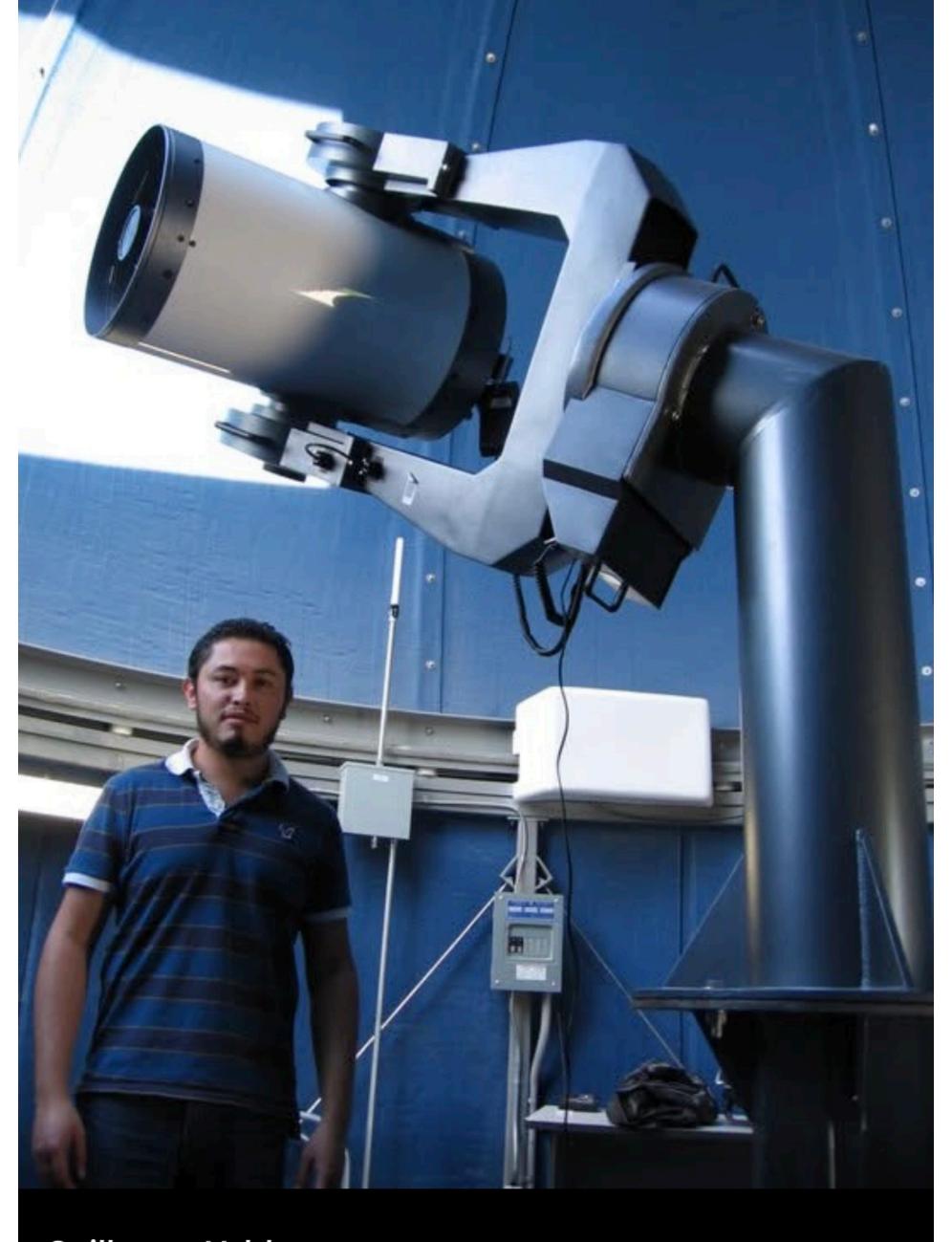


and Physics Engineering students, Antonio Galan, **Boris Torres** and Guillermo Valdes, work on the University of Texas at Brownsville and Texas Southmost College Observatory, Tuesday. The work began in June. Officials do not yet have an estimated completion date.

Mario Diaz,

BRAD DOHERTY/ BROWNSVILLE HERALD





**Guillermo Valdes** 

sept 30, 2010 · 👪

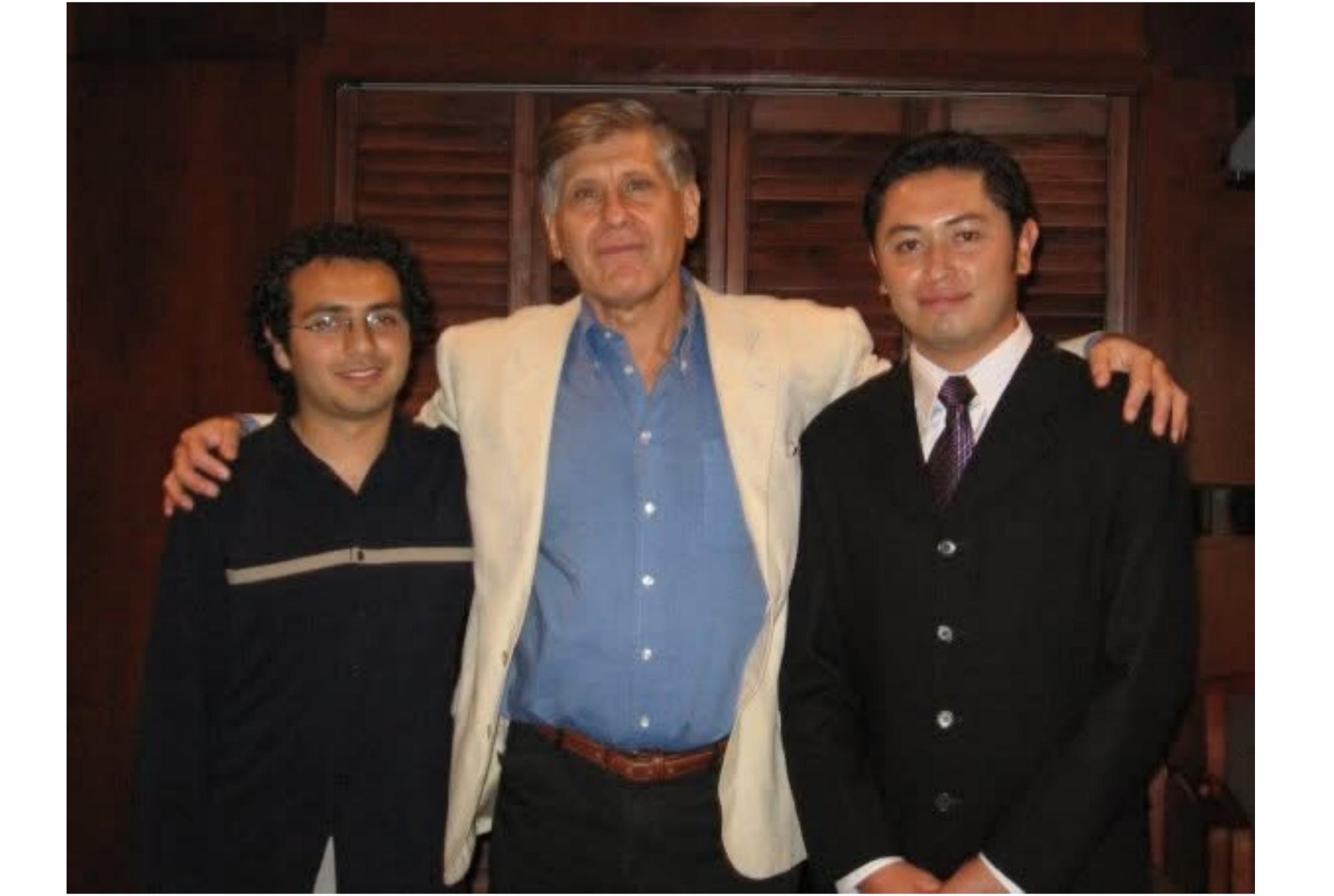
El observatorio Nompuewenu



Antonio Galán

dic 11, 2012 · 😚

Con Guillermo Valdes y Jose Figueroa Garcia.









With Dr. Taylor, Nobel Prize in Physics (1993).















Cobertura: Canal 14.1 de Televisión digital terrestre







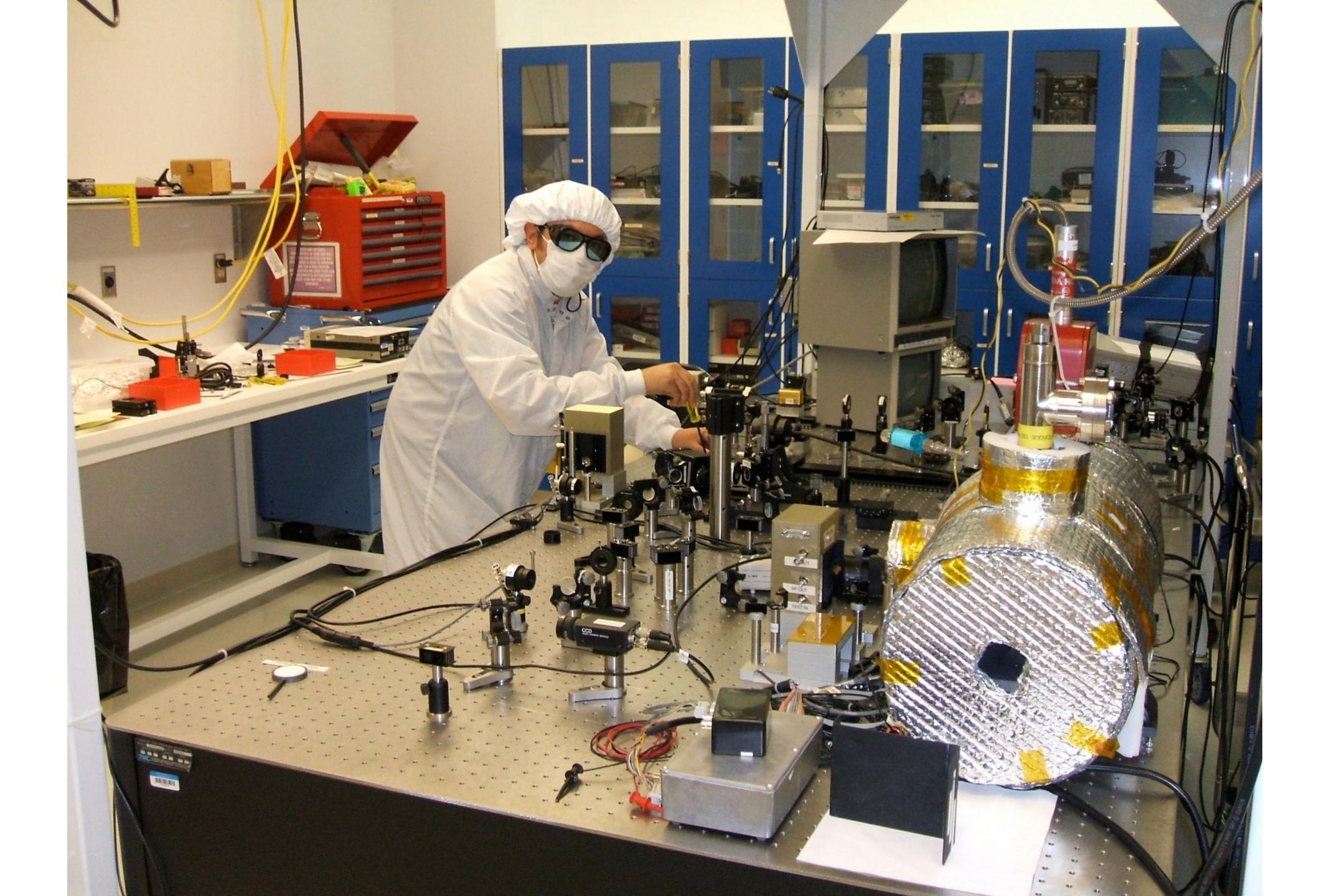


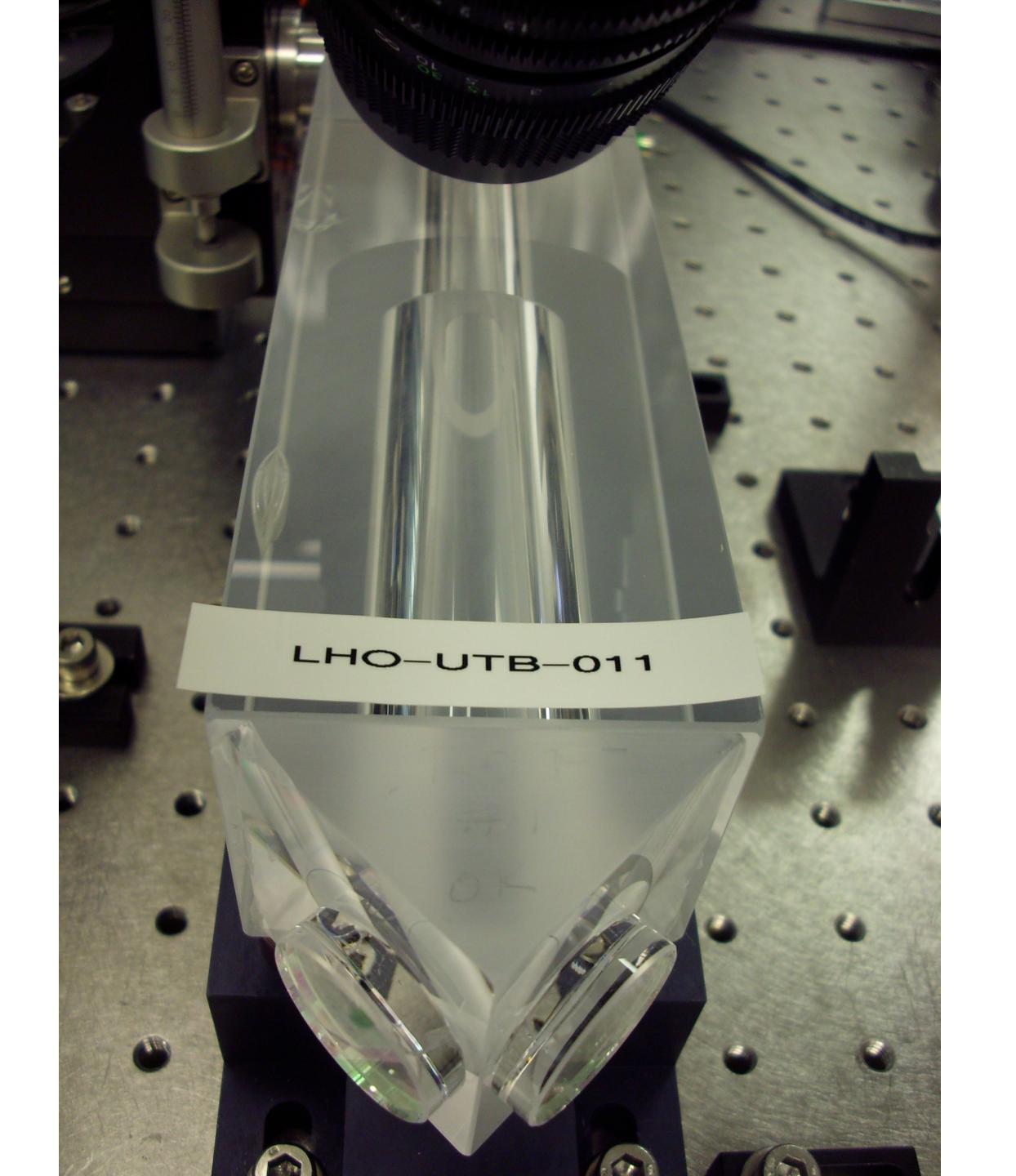


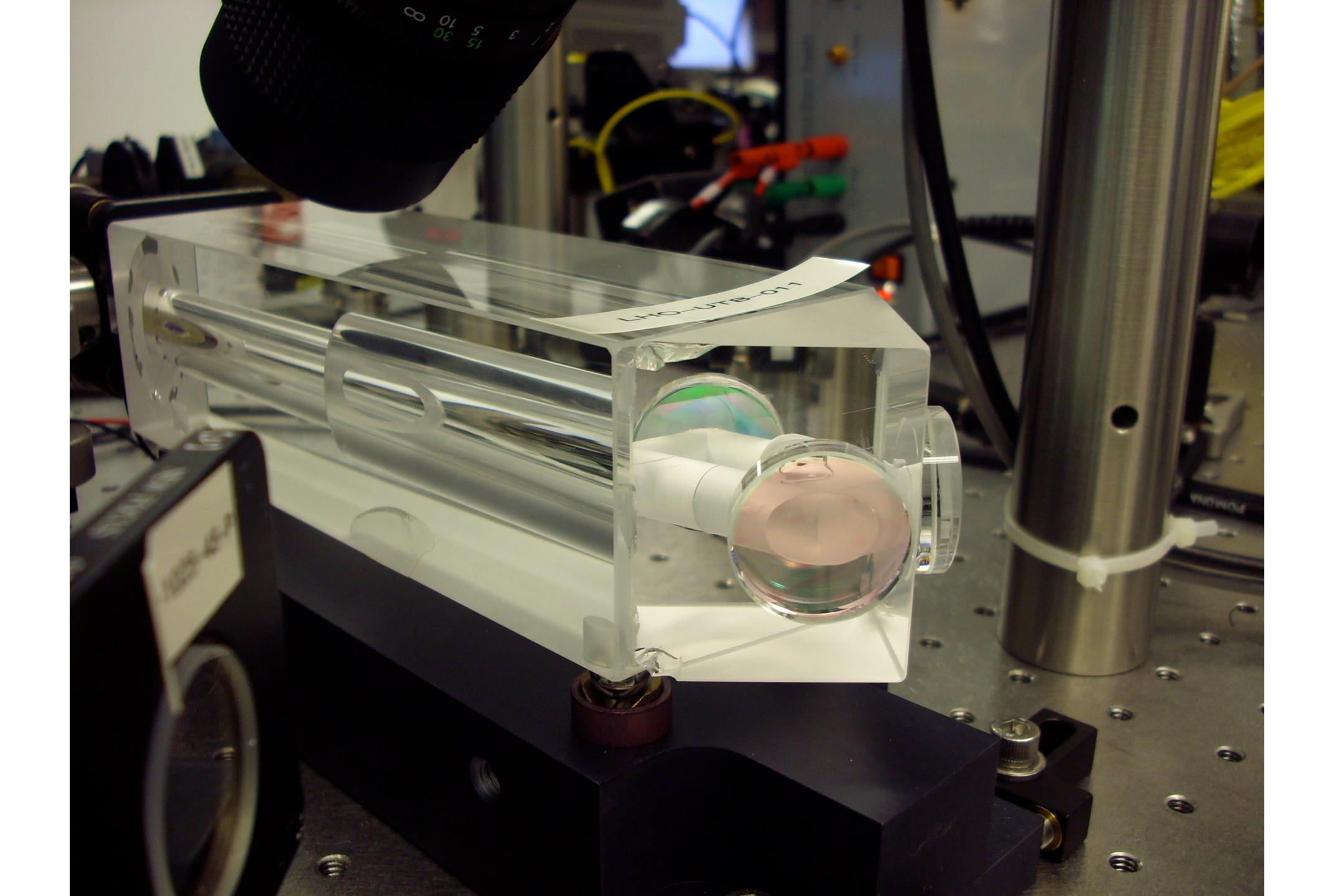






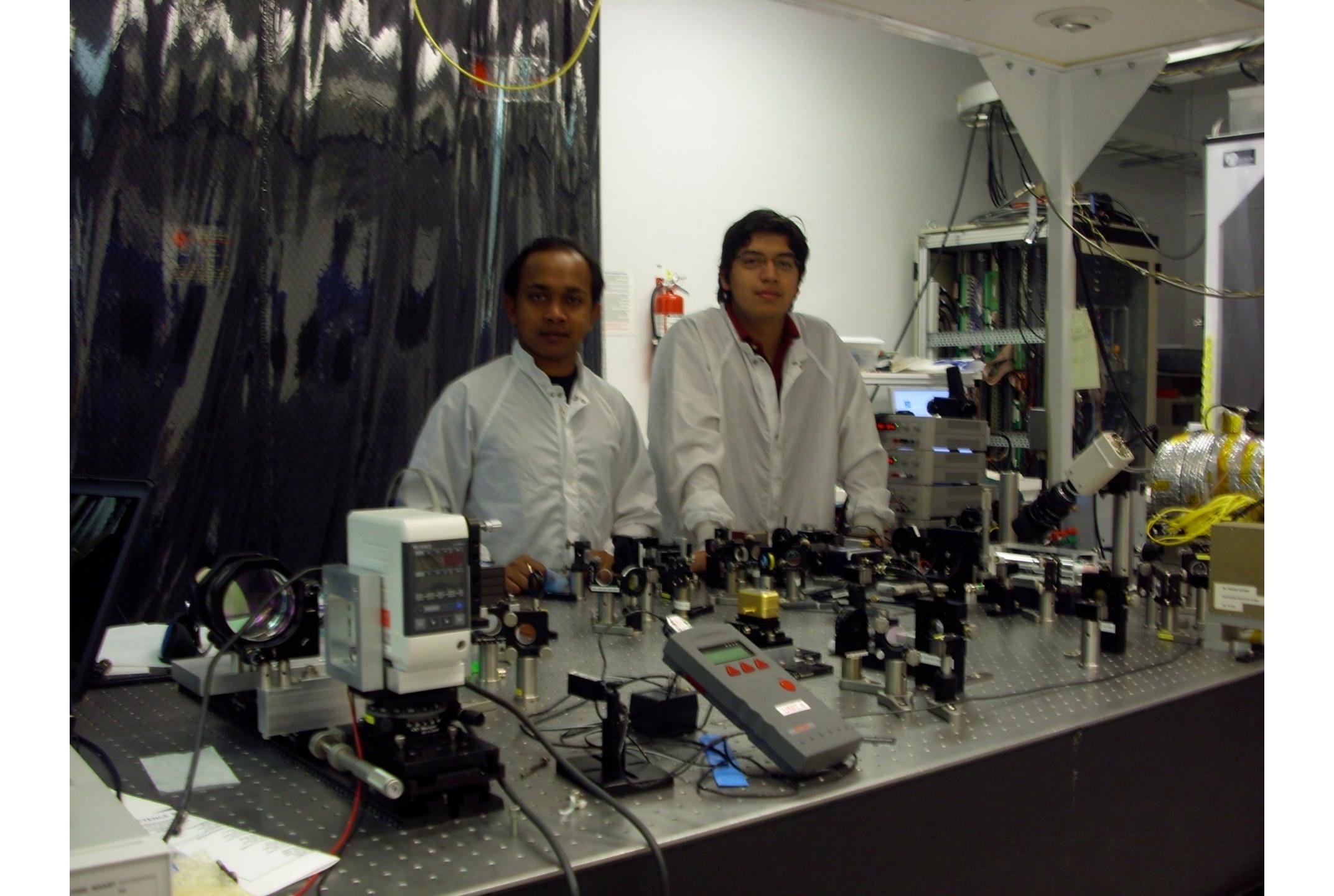




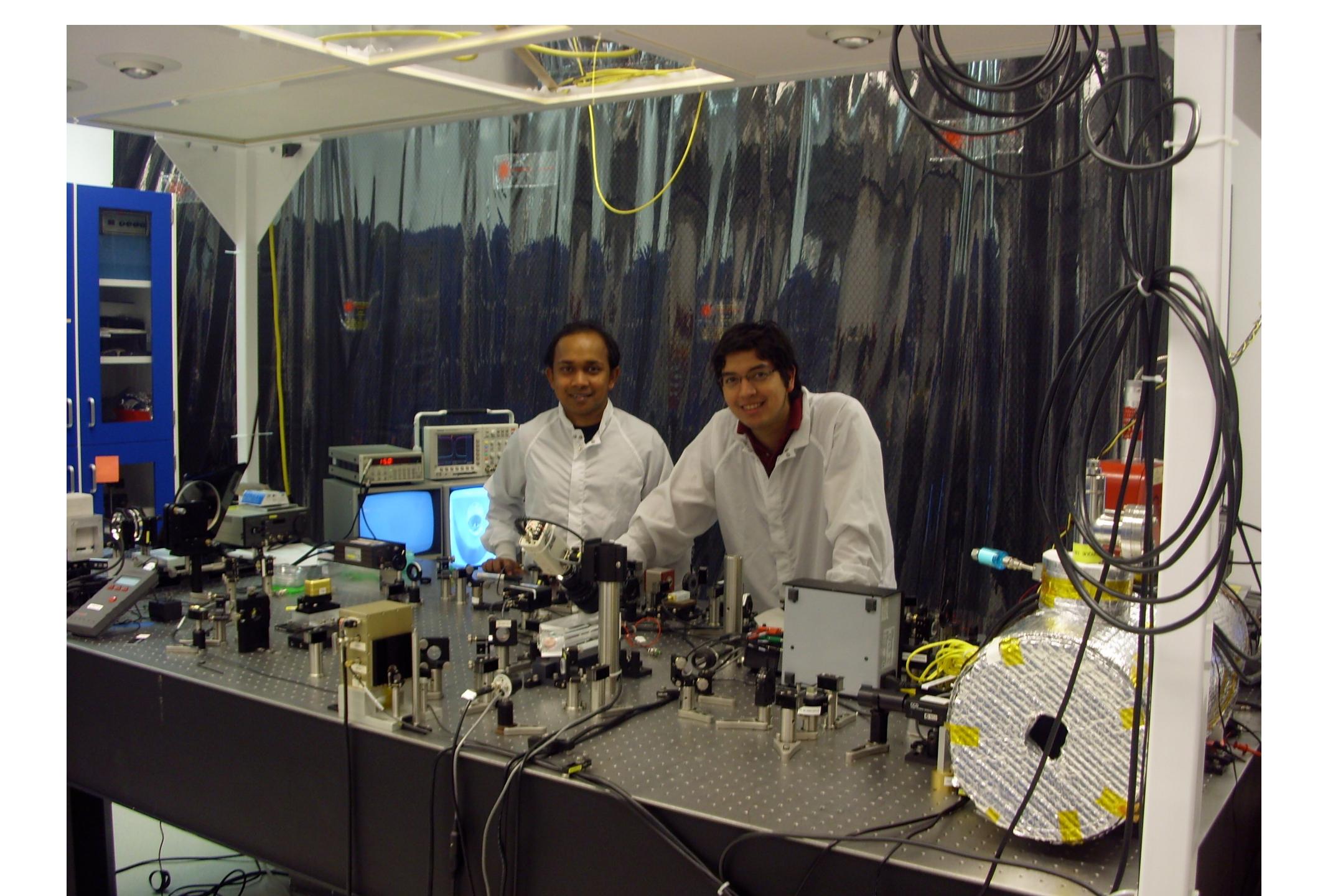












# Collaboration to Integrate Research and Education between The University of Texas at Brownsville and The Laser Interferometer Gravitational-Wave Observatory

L. Cabeza, M. Díaz, F. Khan, J.D. Romano The University of Texas at Brownsville

M. Coles, A. Lazzarini Laser Interferometer Gravitational-Wave Observatory

It may be that physicists in the twenty-first century will find that the study of black holes or gravitational radiation reveals more about the laws of nature than elementary particle physics.

Steven Weinberg (Dreams of a Final Theory)

### 2 Project description

### 2.1 Organization of the collaboration

### 2.1.1 The University of Texas at Brownsville

The University of Texas at Brownsville (UTB) is the newest component of the University of Texas system. Established by the state in 1992, UTB currently enrolls more than 9,000 students, of whom 89% are Hispanics, mainly of Mexican-American descent. As part of an ambitious expansion to better serve an underrepresented community, UTB received state approval three years ago to start new programs in Chemistry, Computer Science, Engineering Technology, and Physics. A new state-of-the-art building for housing these programs was completed a year ago. In the fall of 1996, Mario Díaz was hired to help to develop the physics program, and within the first year, about ten students joined the program.

Even though these programs are relatively new, a large number of students have enrolled in them. One hundred and eighty students are currently registered as Engineering Technology majors, and one hundred and twenty are registered in Computer Science. Some of the students are doing research with faculty as part of the Alliance for Minority Participation (AMP) program at UTB. AMP is a program funded by NSF and administered by the University of Texas system that seeks to increase the participation of minority and disadvantaged students in science-related careers. Díaz is the UTB campus director of AMP, and he has helped to attract local students to pursue scientific careers. This year eighteen students participated in research activities funded by AMP and NASA, under the direction of UTB faculty.

### 2.1.2 The Laser Interferometer Gravitational-Wave Observatory

The Laser Interferometer Gravitational-Wave Observatory (LIGO) is one of the largest scientific projects currently supported by NSF [1]. The three LIGO detectors, currently in the process of being completed, will soon be joined by similar interferometric gravitational wave detectors in Pisa, Italy [2], Hannover, Germany [3], and Tokyo, Japan [4]. This world-wide network of gravitational wave detectors will allow researchers to study

### CALIFORNIA INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

LASER INTERFEROMETER GRAVITATIONAL-WAVE OBSERVATORY (LIGO) PROJECT CHARLES C. LAURITSEN LABORATORY OF HIGH ENERGY PHYSICS

May 19, 1999

Professor Joe Romano University of Texas Brownsville, TX

Dear Joe:

I am writing this letter in support of your proposal for a grant under the NSF's CIRE program (Collaborative to Integrate Research and Education). We are very enthusiastic about the effort you are initiating on LIGO at UTB.

As you are well aware, LIGO is a very ambitious undertaking by the NSF. We are nearing completion of our two observatories — one in Livingston, Louisiana and the other in Hanford, Washington. By early next year we expect to begin to turn on these large instruments and plan to begin our first science run in 2002. Your research has been valuable to our planning for doing science on LIGO and we expect your group to be important contributors to the future searches for gravitational waves.

In addition to the physics research that will be done on LIGO, we are committed to a strong education and outreach program. LIGO is an NSF REU site and we are proud to the program we have instituted involving undergraduates in our research. This summer we are also instituting a summer program for high school teachers and students. The program your are proposing would represent a significant step to also involve us in an integrated research program for minority students. We are committed to working with you on this important program.

Integrating research and teaching is important to the NSF and important to us on LIGO. Doing this for minority students is an important goal of our program. We hope to work jointly with you on your proposed program.

Sincerely,

Bany C. Barris

Barry C. Barish Linde Professor of Physics Director, LIGO Laboratory

### 4 Proposed Center Description

### 4.1 Center for Gravitational Wave Astronomy

This is a proposal to create a NASA Group 3 OMU University Research Center (URC), the "Center for Gravitational Wave Astronomy" (CGWA), at The University of Texas at Brownsville (UTB).

This center will develop excellence in research and education in areas related to a new type of Astronomy which will become technically feasible within the next five to ten years, gravitational wave astronomy. This center will focus on the theoretical aspects of this type of astronomy, specifically astrophysical source modelling, gravitational wave data analysis, and the phenomenological astrophysics of gravitational wave sources, the first two of which UTB has already established world-class research programs in. It will also push forward existing programs at UTB in some associated areas of computational science, specifically parallel, distributed and grid computing methods. In accomplishing these research goals, UTB will naturally achieve the human resource development objectives of the URC program. The University of Texas at Brownsville is one of four public universities that serve the Texas-Mexico border region, and draws its student population almost exclusively from this region. UTB is therefore a Hispanic serving institution with a student body approximately 90% Mexican-American. By utilizing existing resources, including a doctoral program agreement with The University of Texas at Dallas, the proposed center will: (i) make substantial contributions to the Space Science NASA enterprise, (ii) improve the rates at which U.S. citizens of Hispanic descent are awarded advanced degrees in basic science at the master and the Ph.D. level at the local, state and national levels, (iii) increase the number of Hispanic undergraduates in the areas of physical sciences, computer science and engineering and iv) augment the general scientific literacy of the lower Rio Grande region, thus providing a fertile environment for an increased high-tech component for border industries.

The center that we propose to create stems from an assessment of current existing resources, an understanding of the potential for the development of new programs, and a vision for graduate education. The existing resources which revolve around the UTB Relativity group (UTBRG), currently with five faculty, one post-doc and several undergraduate and graduate students, reached a "critical mass" after only six years of development. This rapid growth is due in large part to very strong support from UTB administration. The UTBRG has now gained national and international recognition. Its organization, its broad-ranging collaborations and its short but impressive history of funding indicates that it has achieved a level of maturity that will allow it to move to the next level: the creation of a center of excellence.

The research focus of the CGWA will draw heavily upon the expertise already in the UTBRG. Five CGWA investigators (Anderson, Campanelli, Díaz, Lousto and Romano) are listed in UTB's memorandum of understanding with the LIGO (Laser Interferometer Gravitational wave Observatory) Scientific Collaboration (LSC). In the area of data analysis, investigators Anderson, Díaz and Romano, together with undergraduate and graduate students and one post-doc, have contributed to the LSC's data analysis effort for three of the four gravitational wave source groups; they lead the effort for stochastic signals and have contributed to developing data analysis methods and implementing searches for unmodeled burst signals and binary inspiral signals. In source modeling, Campanelli and Lousto/lead the Lazarus project, a multi-institutional collaboration which is trying to obtain the first reliable model of black hole collisions using numerical modeling techniques. The CGWA will augment this expertise by adding a third area which will complement the other

UTB TSC

### OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

### THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT BROWNSVILLE and TEXAS SOUTHMOST COLLEGE

80 Fort Brown • Brownsville, Texas 78520 • (956) 544-8201 • Fax (956) 548-0020

Juliet V. García, Ph.D. President

May 16, 2002

Dr. Mario Díaz Chair, Department of Physics and Astronomy The University of Texas at Brownsville 80 Fort Brown Brownsville, TX, 78520

Dear Dr. Díaz,

I am pleased to write this letter in strong support of your proposal to fund a NASA Group 3 OMU University Research Center for Gravitational Wave Astronomy at The University of Texas at Brownsville. As you are well aware, it is especially important to the future of young universities, such as ours, to create a nurturing environment in which the creativity and ambition of young faculty can grow and flourish. It is one of the primary goals of this administration to provide such an environment.

It is gratifying to see how successful the Department of Physics and Astronomy, which you chair, has been in recruiting dynamic young researchers. We are especially glad to see these young professors continuing your department's strong record of fostering our undergraduate and graduate students to participate in research at the very frontiers of your discipline.

The creation of the Center for Gravitational Wave Astronomy is a natural step in the evolution of your department, and a positive step forward for the University as we expand our horizons in the twenty-first century. Our administration will support the initiative to establish this center at UTB by every means possible working within the resources of our institution. In particular, we commit to the creation of two new tenure-track positions in the Department of Physics and Astronomy to participate in the activities of the center should it be funded. Furthermore, we are prepared to offer summer salary to the faculty of the center for the five-year duration of the initial granting cycle.

I wish you every success in this endeavor, and look forward to many more wonderful success stories from your department in the near future.

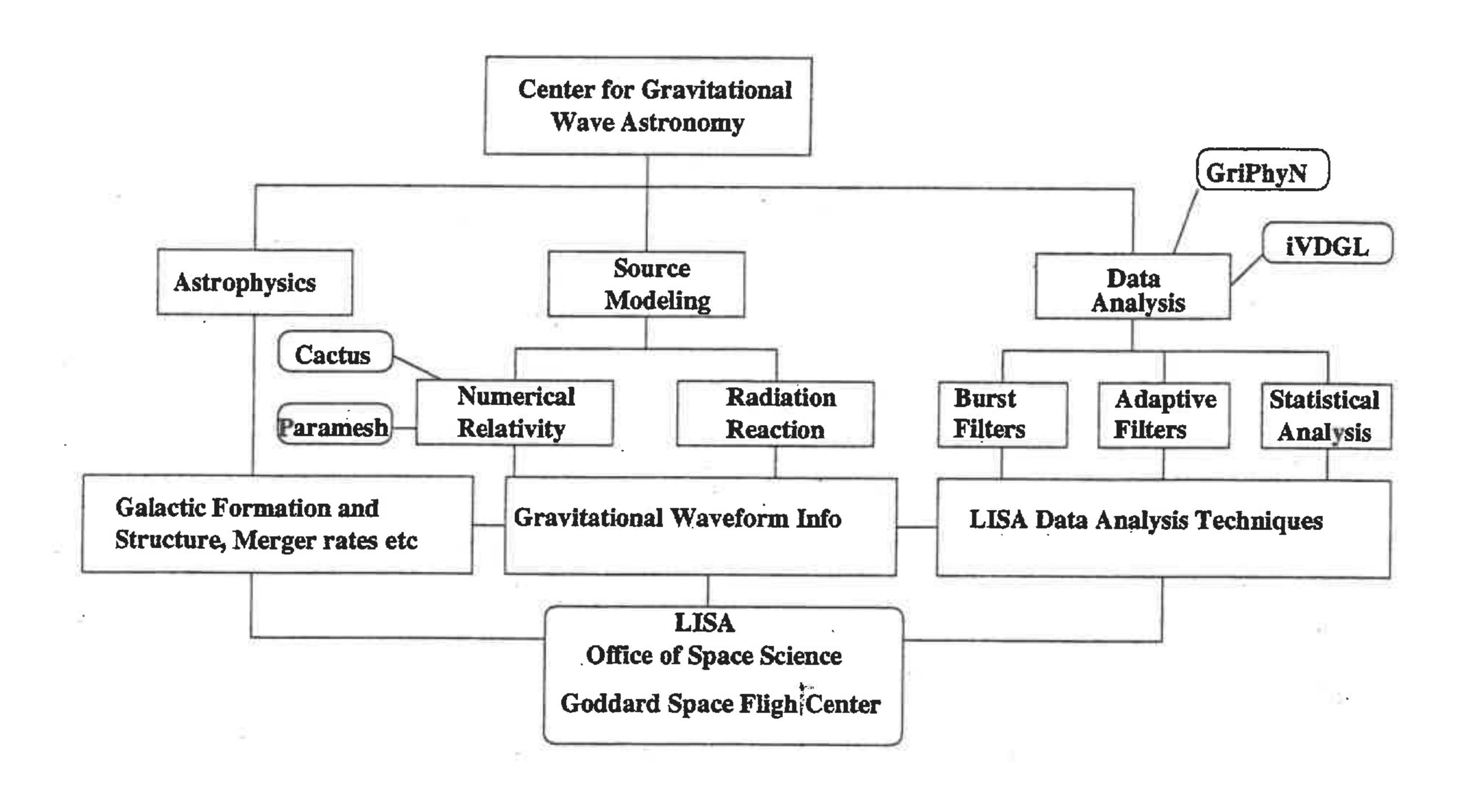
Sincerely,

Oplat V. Carer

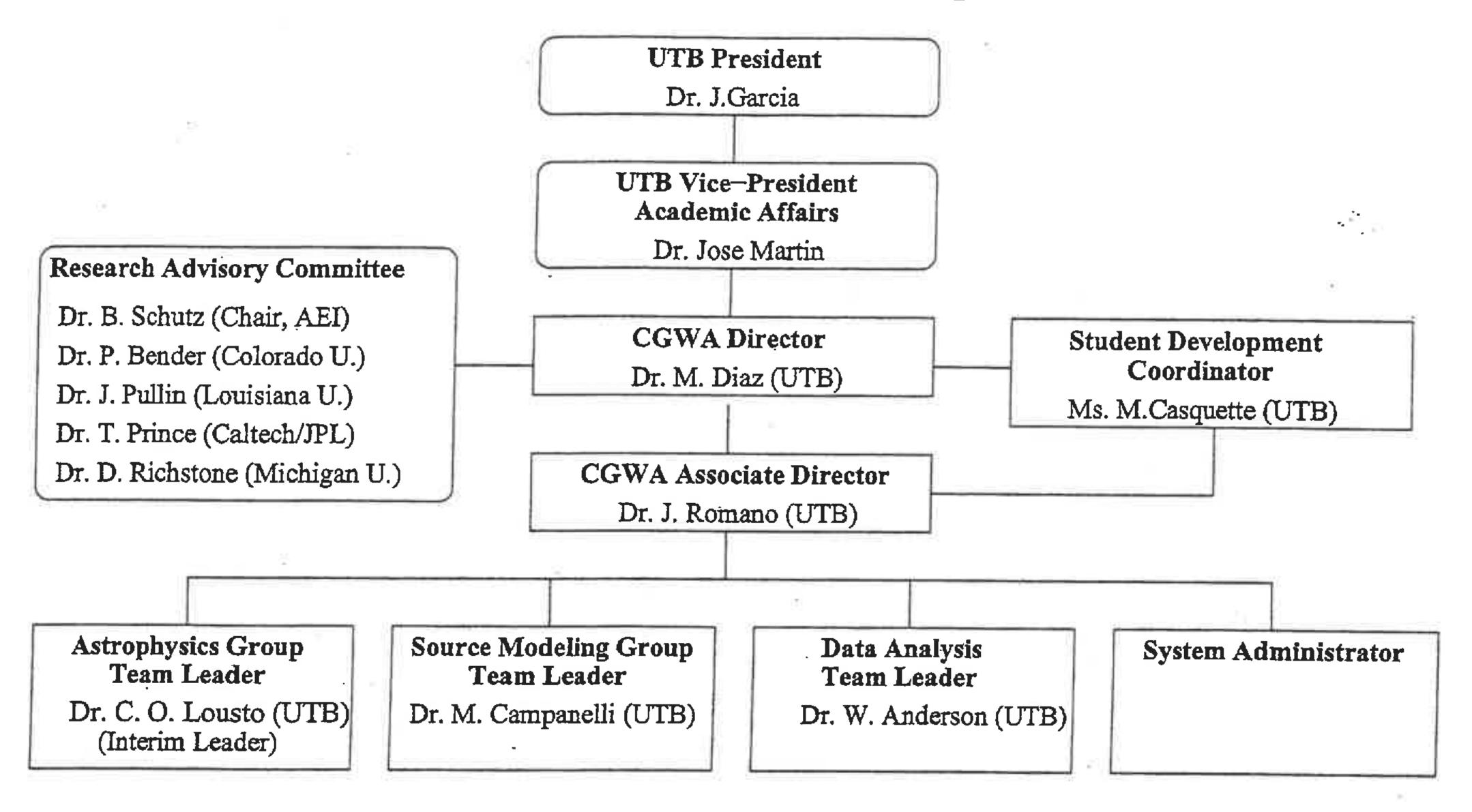
Juliet V. García



From Left to right: Joseph D. Romano, Manuela Campanelli, Mario C. Diaz, Carlos O. Lousto and Warren G. Anderson collaborated on the award winning grant proposal to NASA.



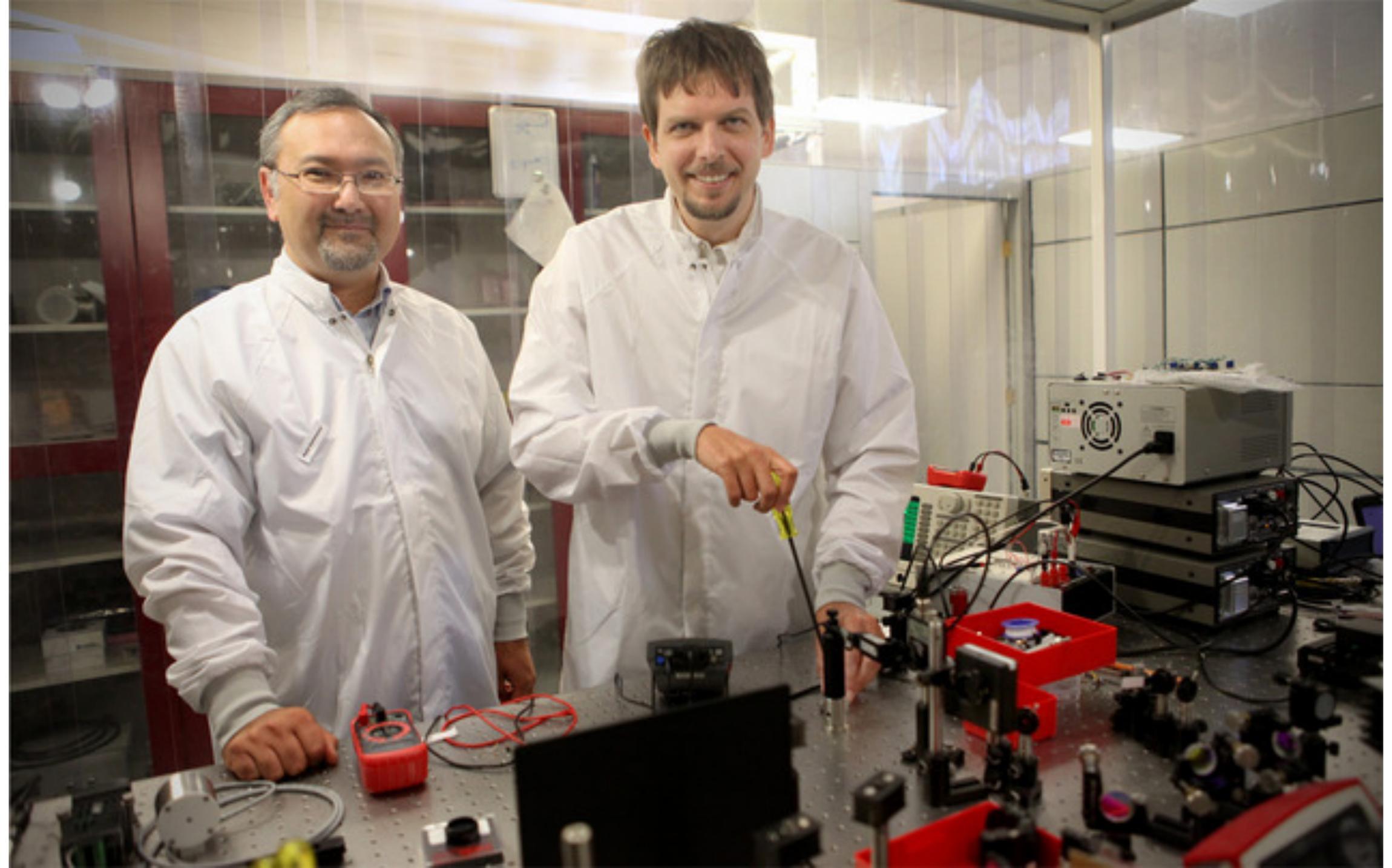
## CGWA Organization and Management Plan



















# Celebrating Space







Photography Exhibit | Mars as Art by NASA & CARA UTB
Art Exhibits | Spacetime by Sara Mast, Evolution by Emilio Rangel
& Inspiration by the Masters, Dalí, Miró, Tamayo, Velazquez & Matta



Art Installation | Black (W)hole by Einstein Collective & CGWA UTB Sculpture Exhibit | Quantic by Sebastián

Nov. 2014 - May 2015



# CELEBRATION OF THE 10<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY OF THE CENTER FOR GRAVITATIONAL WAVE ASTRONOMY

The physics is theoretical, but the fun is real!

3 p.m. • Oct. 12, 2013
Student Union
Food, Music, Activities, Fun • Free of charge

Activities include a black hole art installation, a one ring science "circus", telescopes for solar viewing, talks by leading research scientists, and artistic media such as an original film on black holes.





















Rio Grande Science and Arts Festival
The University of Texas at Brownsville
November 6-9, 2014

