BOSTON UNIVERSITY

Astrophysics Seminar
Monday, November 10, 2014

How do stars get their mass?

3:15 pm
Refreshments
CAS Room 500

3:30 pm
Seminar
CAS Room 502

Phil Myers
Harvard-Smithsonian
Center for Astrophysics

Abstract:

Many simulations of cluster formation by turbulent fragmentation have been carried out, but the mass accretion histories of their protostars have not generally been compared in a systematic way. Analysis of protostar accretion histories in simulations of turbulence by four independent groups indicates they have two results in common: nearly constant mean accretion rates at a high multiple of the thermal value, and the tendency for firstborn stars to reach higher mass by accreting for longer times. These results indicate that the mechanisms of cloud formation and of accretion stopping may play greater roles in setting stellar mass than previously thought.

Next Week

- *Lincoln Greenhill*
  Center for Astrophysics
- The Large Aperture Experiment to Detect the Dark Age (LEDA)

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725 Commonwealth Avenue
Boston, MA 02215