

## Chris Mihos

**Talk Title:** Structure, Substructure, and Stellar Populations in the Diffuse Halos of Virgo Ellipticals

**Talk Abstract:** We have used deep wide-field imaging of the Virgo Cluster to trace the diffuse stellar halos of several Virgo ellipticals out to 100 kpc and beyond. The extended halos of many of these galaxies show complex substructure in the form of tidal streams and shells, indicative of past accretion events. In the case of the massive elliptical M49, the relatively blue colors of the halo stars, combined with the redder colors of the tidal shells, argues for ongoing buildup of both mass and metallicity in the galaxy's outer halo, perhaps related to the interaction with the companion galaxy VCC 1249. We discuss the halo properties of M49 and the other Virgo ellipticals in the context of galaxy assembly and evolution in the cluster environment.