

# CERES, AN UNEXPECTEDLY ACTIVE DWARF PLANET: FINDINGS FROM THE DAWN MISSION

The Dawn mission to explore the largest asteroids, Vesta and Ceres, has uncovered unexpected findings from Ceres, the largest asteroid in the asteroid belt. Believed to be comprised of ice and rock, new Dawn mission data have confirmed these inferences from telescopic data and have also shown evidence of ammoniated phyllosilicates that may suggest an origin further out in the solar system and brines in the Ceres subsurface, extruding to the surface, as recently as a few tens to hundreds of millions of years ago. Here I will describe a selection of the findings from the Dawn mission, mainly focused on composition, that point to the unusual aqueous activity on this body and its modern geological activity.



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**4 PM WEDNESDAY**

**September 19, 2018  
Room 54-915**

*Pre-Lecture Reception, 3:45 PM*  
All are welcome to attend.