



San Mateo County Astronomical Society



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SMCAS General Meeting and Presentation on Friday March 1, 2019

Dr Michael Busch
Research Scientist, SETI

Near Earth Asteroid Hazards, Research and Space Missions

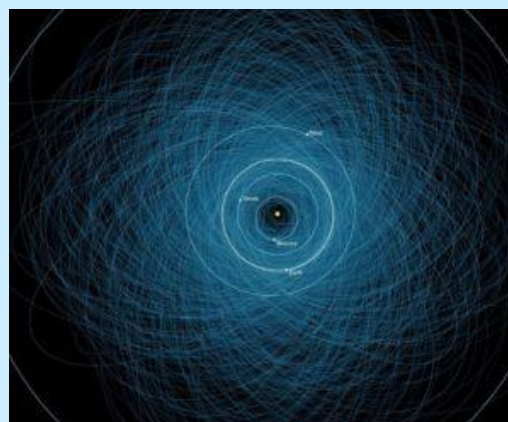
Friday, March 1, 2019 , [College of San Mateo, Building 36](#)

SMCAS General meeting at 7:00 p.m. ISC Room, room 110

Presentation at 8:00 p.m. [Planetarium](#)

Free and open to the public, free parking (lots 5 or 6).

Near-Earth asteroids (NEAs), are a population of objects on orbit around the Sun that cross or come near that of Earth. They represent remnants of material from the early solar system that never accreted into planets. NEAs are of special interest to us because of the special risks some of them may present to earth from collision. Join us in learning more about Near Earth Asteroids and related space missions from Dr. Michael Busch. Dr Busch will review the near-Earth population, as well as efforts to discover and characterize NEAs from the ground, and will also discuss past, current, and future missions to near-Earth asteroids. These include missions by NASA, ESA, JAXA, the Chinese National Space Agency, and other groups.



Dr Busch received his BS in physics and astronomy at the University of Minnesota in 2005 and PhD in planetary science at Caltech in 2010. He then did postdoctoral research at UCLA and at the National Radio Astronomy Observatory - under the Jansky Fellows program - before starting as a [research scientist at SETI](#) in September 2013. He primarily studies near-Earth asteroids, using radio and radar techniques. He has particular interests in the shapes, spin states, internal structures, and histories of individual objects - especially spacecraft mission targets and potential Earth impactors. He also has side projects on martian dust storms and on SETI message design.