

# School of Physics and Astronomy

## COLLOQUIUM

### New directions in understanding quasars



**Professor Rachel Webster**  
**University of Melbourne**

Quasars are extremely luminous galactic nuclei powered by accretion of gas onto supermassive black holes. They are known to have axisymmetric geometry, largely due to the existence of an accretion disk through which gas fuels the black hole. However the implications of this geometry on the dynamics and kinematics of the gas in the vicinity of the black hole are still a matter of speculation. In this talk I will describe the ideas and models that we have been developing to understand the physics of the Broad Emission Line Region of quasars, and describe some of the implications both for the measurement of black hole masses and the physics of the quasar outflows.

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| Date:  | Wednesday 12 June                                |
| Time:  | 2pm  |
| Venue: | L1, Large Seminar Room, 10 College Walk, Clayton |

Info: [ilya.mandel@monash.edu](mailto:ilya.mandel@monash.edu)