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OKINAWA INSTITUTE OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY GRADUATE UNIVERSITY  
沖縄科学技術大学院大学

# Connecting Modern Astronomy with Its Traditional Roots Okinawan Perspective

Thursday 27th March 11:00-12:00 @C210

Talk by

**Yuko Kakazu**, Ph.D. Subaru Telescope

Dating back several thousand years, astronomy is the oldest natural science. It has played important roles in many ancient cultures – from religious practices and timekeeping, to determining when to plant and harvest crops.

In this talk, I will first discuss the cultural and historical aspects of astronomy in my home island Okinawa and island of Hawai'i where I live now. I will then introduce some of the current astronomical research at the Japanese 8.2m Subaru telescope on top of Mauna Kea, Hawaii, focusing on galaxy formation and evolution.



## Yuko Kakazu, Ph.D. Subaru Telescope

Dr. Yuko Kakazu recently joined the Subaru Telescope as an outreach specialist. A native Okinawan, she began her journey into astronomy when she attended the NASA U.S. Space Camp program at age 13. Dr. Kakazu graduated from Tohoku University in Japan and then obtained her Ph.D. at the Institute for Astronomy, University of Hawai'i at Manoa. Since then, she has worked as a postdoctoral researcher in Paris, France (Institut d'Astrophysique de Paris), California (California Institute of Technology), and Chicago (University of Chicago). Her research focuses on metal poor galaxies and distant galaxies in order to understand galaxy formation and chemical enrichment history.