

## **Professor Steven Balbus: 2020 Eddington Medal**

The Eddington Medal is awarded for investigations of outstanding merit in theoretical astrophysics specifically for a single outstanding area of work. Professor Steven Balbus has revolutionised the theory of accreting systems and made fundamental contributions to the theory of stability, turbulence and transport in astrophysical fluids. Professor Balbus' career has spanned four decades working first in the United States then France and now UK, publishing numerous single and leading author papers. Since 2012 Professor Balbus has held the prestigious position of Savilian Professor of Astronomy at the University of Oxford and until recently has been Head of the Astrophysics sub-Department there. He has been honoured many times; perhaps most significantly winning the 2013 Shaw Prize (jointly with John Hawley). He was made a Fellow of the Royal Society in 2016 and his name is now synonymous with the field of magneto rotational instability or MRI. He can now be seen to be largely responsible for launching a whole new sub-field of astrophysics; playing a pivotal role in establishing magnetohydrodynamics as a modelling tool in astrophysics.

For these reasons Professor Steven Balbus is awarded the 2020 Eddington Medal

### **Short citation**

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