Abstract Submitted for the APR16 Meeting of The American Physical Society

CoffeeShop Astrophysics: An Adventure in Public Outreach<sup>1</sup> SYDNEY CHAMBERLIN, The Pennsylvania State University, MEGAN DECE-SAR, SARAH CAUDILL, LALEH SADEGHIAN, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, LAURA NUTTALL, Syracuse University, ALEX URBAN, CASEY MCGRATH, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee — Engaging non-scientists in scientific discussions is inarguably important, both for researchers and society. Public lectures have long been utilized as a method for performing such outreach, but due to their format and location often reach a limited audience. More recently, events such as science cafés (events pairing a scientist with the public in a casual venue) have emerged as a potential tool for connecting with general audiences. The success of these events depends on multiple variables. In this talk, we describe an example of such an event entitled *CoffeeShop Astrophysics*, that uses multiple speakers, demonstrations and humor to successfully engage members of the public. We discuss the key elements that make CoffeeShop Astrophysics effective, and the viability of grassroots, coffeeshop-style outreach.

<sup>1</sup>The authors gratefully acknowledge support from the American Physical Society for this work.

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Date submitted: 08 Jan 2016

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