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## Optical Astronomy in South Africa

*Wednesday 4 July 2018 09:00 (25 minutes)*

I will present a brief overview of optical astronomy in South Africa in the context of the multi-wavelength astronomy strategy of South Africa. I will focus on the role of optical astronomy in support of radio and gamma-ray observations, and highlight the new and unique MeerLICHT optical telescope which will provide a real-time view at optical wavelengths of the MeerKAT radio sky. By exclusively linking MeerLICHT to MeerKAT, we will, for the first time ever, provide optical multi-band observations of every night-time observation conducted by a radio telescope, ensuring that every transient in the field of view will be simultaneously covered in the radio and the optical.

**Presenter:** Prof. WOUTD, Patrick (University of Cape Town)

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