
Xander Tielens and his Contributions to Understanding the ISM

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Abstract

This talk highlights aspects of Xander Tielens' career from graduate student at Leiden University in the late 70's to his current professorship at Leiden. These highlights include his tenure at NASA Ames, his involvement with infrared astronomy and laboratory astrophysics, his management roles in SOFIA and Herschel, and some recent honors including the Spinoza Prize in 2012. The Conference includes five main topics: PDRs, PAHs, Ice, Dust Life Cycle, and Astrochemistry. I briefly discuss a few of Xander's contributions to these topics.

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