

**Dan Reichart** is a Professor of Physics and Astronomy at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, and Director of the Skynet Robotic Telescope Network. His dissertation research on distant, cosmic explosions called gamma-ray bursts (GRBs) was ranked by Science Magazine as one of the top ten breakthroughs in science in 1999, and it earned him the Robert J. Trumpler Award for top astrophysics dissertation research in North America in 2003. In 2005, he and his students discovered the most distant explosion in the universe yet known, a GRB that occurred when the universe was only 6% its current age. In 2017, one of his Skynet telescopes co-discovered the first kilonova, caused by merging neutron stars.

