

Wynton Moore

Wynton Moore's interest in physics began to develop while attending high school in Dunedin, New Zealand, where he was fortunate to have an inspiring teacher and an early opportunity to study at nearby Otago University. As an undergraduate, involvement in a number of summer research projects provided a formative experience. Wynton graduated with a first class Honors degree in Physics in 2006, aged 19. His Honors dissertation was a theoretical and numerical study of an interacting Bose gas (or Bose-Einstein Condensate) trapped in an optical lattice. The optical lattice, generated by interfering laser beams, is of practical interest for the construction of a quantum computer.

Wynton continued with Masters program study at Otago, working on applying theoretical techniques from quantum optics to an ultra-cold Fermi gas. It was during this time he applied for the International Fulbright Science and Technology Award, drawn by the prospect of an extended overseas experience and the academic opportunities to be found in the United States.

Thanks to Fulbright, Wynton is now able to follow a long-standing interest: theoretical cosmology. The idea that mankind can use contemporary observations to reconstruct physical conditions which occurred very early in the life of the universe seems to carry a weight of meaning for our conception of the world. What implications will increased understanding of the early universe have for the current epoch? At present Wynton is attending graduate school at the University of Chicago, a center for cosmological research.