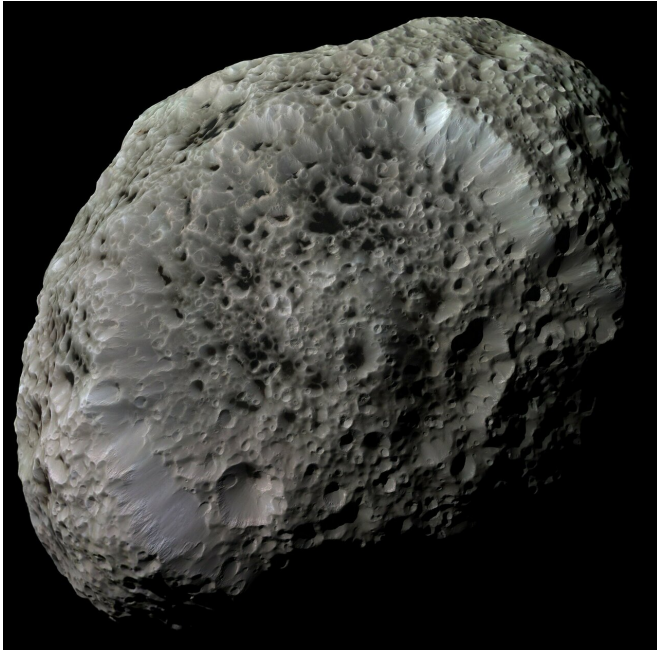


# Video: Planetary scientist talks about her work with NASA studying asteroid Bennu

8 February 2019

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What can the asteroid Bennu tell us about the universe and its origins? Assistant astronomy professor Cristina Thomas talked to NAU-TV about her experience as a team member of NASA's OSIRIS REx mission, which landed on the asteroid late last year and is collecting samples of regolith, or loose surface material, which scientists think may have answers about the earliest history in the solar system.

Thomas' research focuses on asteroids and near-Earth projects; she recently completed a ground-based spectral survey of several families of asteroids using NASA's Infrared Telescope Facility and SOAR telescopes.

Provided by Northern Arizona University

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