For a number of years, Cal Poly professors and students have been performing experiments in nuclear astrophysics. By measuring the emitted levels of nuclear radiation from artifacts recovered from space – such as meteorites, lunar samples, and parts from space vehicles – the researchers are exploring the radioactives found in space, and testing current theories of cosmological development. Using instruments such as spectrometers (pictured), many experiments have been conducted, but two in the last several years have particular significance: One demonstrated that there are measurable amounts of uranium in near-Earth space, and the second measured the density of radioactive aluminum in that same space. Dr. Grismore will discuss these findings and the impact on current thinking in nuclear astrophysics.