

## News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Media Contact –Danielle Rush**

**May 16, 2012**

Communications Specialist  
2300 S. Washington Street  
Kokomo, IN 46904-9003  
(765) 455-9414  
[darush@iuk.edu](mailto:darush@iuk.edu)

### **View solar eclipse at IU Kokomo observatory**

KOKOMO, Ind. — Indiana University Kokomo’s Observatory is the place to be Sunday, to witness a partial solar eclipse.

Patrick Motl, assistant professor of physics, said the eclipse will begin shortly before sunset. He expects the first sighting of it in Kokomo will be around 8:20 p.m.

“People in the western two-thirds of North America will see the moon pass in front of the sun, creating a partial solar eclipse low in the western sky,” Motl said.

Those watching from the southwest will see a rare annular eclipse, in which the moon appears entirely within the sun's disk.

The Observatory, 105 E. Rebecca Lane, will be open from 7 to 10 p.m. Motl said stargazers should be able to view Saturn when the sky is darker.

The Observatory features two telescopes mounted together – a six-inch Takahashi refracting telescope and a 16-inch Meade reflecting telescope. The Takahashi provides exceptionally sharp images of planets, while the Meade lets stargazers see fainter objects in the sky, due to its larger light collecting area.

*Indiana University Kokomo serves north central Indiana.*

**-END-**