Astronomy on Tap and AIAA Greater Huntsville Section collaborated on a lecture at Innerspace Brewing on Wednesday, September 28th. The Astronomy on Tap organization brings local scientists to your local brewery to talk about science going on in your own backyard. Our speaker was Dr. Gabe Xu from the University of Alabama Huntsville. Dr. Xu's talk was entitled "Zapping All the Things: Applications of Plasma from Space Propulsion to Plant Growth."

Dr. Gabe Xu is an Associate Professor in the Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering Department at the University of Alabama in Huntsville. He received his PhD from Georgia Institute of Technology in 2012 working on Hall effect thrusters. In the last 10 years, he and his students have broadened the scope of the research to include biomedical and material plasma applications, lab scale fusion studies, and rotating detonation engines. This talk will focus on the plasma side of the research and how plants and bacteria treatment can go along with space propulsion and fusion. Gabe is the faculty advisor for the UAH AIAA branch, and the graduate coordinator for aerospace engineering at UAH. He is a member of APS, IEEE, and an associate fellow of AIAA.



Dr. Gabe Xu speaks at Innerspace Brewing as part of AIAA GHS/Astronomy on Tap's collaborative event.