

Bruno Leibundgut's career as an astrophysicist spans more than past 30 years. His scientific contributions range from the nucleosynthesis in stellar explosions to the evolution of the universe.

After his PhD at the University of Basle, Switzerland, he held positions as junior researcher at the Harvard University in Cambridge, Massachusetts, and the University of California, Berkeley. He mostly worked on the physics of stellar explosions and cosmology. For nearly 30 years he is now an astrophysicist at the European Southern Observatory (ESO). He held various positions within this intergovernmental organization, among them Director for Science. Bruno Leibundgut is deeply involved in the operations of large telescopes and currently serves as Programme Scientist of the Very Large Telescope (VLT). Since 2019 he also holds a honorary professorship at the Technical University Munich.

Important scientific contributions include measurements of the cosmic expansion rate as part of the High-z Supernova Search Team, which led to the discovery of the accelerated expansion of space (Physics Nobel Prize to Brian Schmidt and Adam Riess). The research collaboration collectively received the 2007 Gruber Prize in Cosmology and the 2015 Breakthrough Prize in Fundamental Physics.

