

Bruno Leibundgut's career as an astrophysicist spans more than past 40 years. His scientific contributions range from the nucleosynthesis in stellar explosions to the expansion history 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 over 30 years he worked as an astrophysicist at the European Southern Observatory (ESO), where he held various positions. He shaped the scientific activities of this inter-governmental organization as operations astronomer, head of the offices for science and finally Director for Science. Bruno Leibundgut is deeply involved in the development and operations of large telescopes, build the data quality control group and served as Programme Scientist of the Very Large Telescope (VLT). Since 2019 he also holds an honorary professorship at the Technical University Munich and was elected emeritus of the ORIGINS Cluster of Excellence. Important scientific contributions include measurements of the accelerated cosmic expansion rate as part of the High-z Supernova Search Team (Physics Nobel Prize to Brian Schmidt, Adam Riess and Saul Perlmutter). The research collaboration collectively received the 2007 Gruber Prize in Cosmology and the 2015 Breakthrough Prize in Fundamental Physics. He continues to contribute new measurements to the current expansion rate (the Hubble constant) and supernova physics.

