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Type: **Oral Presentation**

Optical study of the Southern high mass star forming region RCW 34

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To understand the formation of stars one must be able to identify young objects. RCW 34 is a star forming region in the constellation of Vela. A study was conducted in the near-infrared where it was found that a large number of stars surrounding the nebula shows NIR characteristics of lower mass pre-main sequence stars. To prove the suspicions a follow-up study was conducted in the optical. The results of a photometric and spectroscopic study on the the nebula and stars within a 7 arcmin x 7 arcmin region around the nebula will be presented.

**Level (Hons, MSc,
 PhD, other)?**

MSc

**Consider for a student
 award (Yes / No)?**

Yes

**Would you like to
 submit a short paper
 for the Conference
 Proceedings (Yes / No)?**

Yes

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Session Classification: APSS

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