

MSCS Mess

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Department of Mathematics, Statistics and Computer Science
St. Olaf College, Northfield, MN 55057

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This Week's Colloquium

Title: Some Combinatoric and Comedic Consequences of the Proof of the Pizza Conjecture.

Speaker: Rick Mabry, LSU Shreveport

Date: Thursday, October 20th

Time: 2:30 pm

Location: RNS 310

About the talk:

The recent proof of the "Pizza Conjecture" by Deiermann and Mabry was accomplished by wishful thinking - unable to solve the original problem, the would-be solvers generalized the problem in a fairly extreme way and hoped for the best. The resulting problem was ultimately solved by reducing a nice, continuous (calculus) problem to a gruesome, discrete (combinatorial) one. The solution made some news, and, in a comedy of errors, cheesy comments flooded the internet in the aftermath. This talk will highlight some mathematical, gastronomical, and comical slices of what ensued, and look at a more recent pizza theorem and its combinatorial solution.

Game Night!

Last year the MSCS Department acquired a collection of nearly two dozen board games. Come and join in on the gaming and socializing in the RMS 6th floor lounge on Wednesday, October 19 from 7pm to 10pm (or so...). Snacks and soda will be provided.

Northfield High School Volunteers Needed

Katie Windschitl, an AmeriCorps Promise Fellow with the Minnesota Alliance with Youth, is seeking Math tutors for Northfield High School. She needs one volunteer from 8:45-9:30am to work Monday, Tuesday, Thursday or Fridays, and help with their after-school program, Homework Help which is Mondays and Thursdays from 2:45- 4:30pm. If interested, please contact Katie.Windschitl@nfld.k12.mn.us

Upcoming Courses

Be on the lookout for next week's Mess! It will contain information on some MSCS courses during Interim and Spring!

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If you would like to submit an article or math event to be published in the Math Mess, e-mail jacobsoj@stolaf.edu.