ST. NORBERT COLLEGE

DE PERE, WISCONSIN

1898

Twenty-Third Annual

Pi Mu Epsilon

Regional Undergraduate Math Conference

November 7 – 8, 2008

Featured Speaker: Eve Torrence

Randolph-Macon College

Eve Torrence

Eve Torrence earned her PhD in Mathematics in 1991 from the University of Virginia. She was a Clare Bothe Luce professor at Trinity College in Washington D.C. from 1991 to 1994
before joining the faculty at Randolph-Macon College. Her current research interests include the mathematics of Charles Dodgson, origami, and elementary mathematics education. Eve and her husband Bruce Torrence have just published the second edition of their book, "The Student's Introduction to *Mathematica*". Eve and her colleague Adrian Rice were awarded the 2007 MAA Trevor Evans award for their article *Lewis Carroll's Condensation Method for Evaluating Determinants*, in Math Horizons, November, 2006. She served as the Chair of the Maryland-DC-Virginia section of the MAA from 2005 to 2007. Eve is currently the President-Elect of PME.

The St. Norbert College chapter of Pi Mu Epsilon and the Sigma Nu Delta Math Club are happy to present Eve Torrence as our featured speaker.

Abstracts of talks:

Modular Origami and the Dodecahedron

In this workshop, we will learn how to build beautiful polyhedra using modular origami. We will also see how tools from graph theory can be used to construct nicely colored models and how combinatorics can reveal properties of these solids. Materials and take home instructions will be provided for all participants. No knowledge of origami or advanced mathematics is required.

The Lost Art of Condensation

Charles Dodgson, aka Lewis Carroll, is best known as the famous author of *Alice in Wonderland*. But despite his fame, Dodgson never gave up his day job as a mathematics lecturer at Oxford University. Dodgson was as original in his mathematics as he was in his literary pursuits. We will explore a little known method for computing determinants discovered by Dodgson and trace the history of the mathematics behind this method.
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Again this year: **Face Off! The Mathematics Game Show**

What is it? Face Off is a mathematics quiz show with questions from the broad realm of mathematics. And we mean broad! Teams of 2-4 students representing their schools compete to answer these questions. For more information, visit the Face Off website.

http://www.uwosh.edu/faculty_staff/szydliks/faceoff.htm

Face Off Organizers: Dr. Ken Price (pricek@uwosh.edu, (920)424-1057),
                    Dr. Steve Szydlik (szydliks@uwosh.edu, (920)424-7346)

Please contact one of the **Face Off** organizers if you would like to enter a team. Any (undergraduate) student who has taken or is enrolled in Calculus I is eligible to join a Face Off team representing their school. If a school doesn't have enough interested students, contact the organizers anyway – we can combine interested students to form hybrid teams. Space will be limited, so form a team soon and let us know of your interest!

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 2008

5:00 p.m.   Cookies and Registration in Cofrin Hall
5:30 p.m.   Student Talks

7:30 p.m   **Eve Torrence**   "Modular Origami and the Dodecahedron"

8:30 p.m.   Face Off! The Mathematics Game Show

Pizza Social to follow immediately.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 2008

8:30 a.m.   Conference Registration and Continental Breakfast in Cofrin Hall
9:00 a.m.   Student Talks

11:00 a.m**.**   **Eve Torrence**   "The Lost Art of Condensation"

This conference is free and open to anyone interested in undergraduate mathematics.   Any full-time student who has not yet earned a master's degree is welcome to give a student talk.

ACCOMMODATIONS

Kress Inn   St. Norbert College campus -- across the street from Cofrin Hall
(A block of rooms is being held at a rate of $69.95 until at least October 7.   Mention the math conference.)
                   (800)221-5070 (920)403-5100

Sleep Inn	1600 Lawrence Dr., De Pere	(920) 338-8800
Comfort Inn	2841 Ramada Way, Green Bay	(920) 498-2060
Country Inn & Suites	2945 Allied St., Green Bay	(920) 336-6600
Exel Inn	2870 Ramada Way, Green Bay	(920) 499-3599
Fairfield Inn	2850 S. Oneida St., Green Bay	(920) 497-1010
James Street Inn	201 James St., De Pere	(920) 337-0111

St. Norbert College has received a $2000 grant from the MAA and the NSF for the purpose of enhancing our undergraduate research conference in mathematics. Some of this **MONEY** will be used to **support** the **travel** of undergraduate student speakers from schools other than SNC.

Student speakers (through their faculty sponsors) will receive 20 cents per mile for the round-trip travel to SNC (up to a total of 800 miles per school). There is a limit of one mileage grant per school.   If there is money left at the application deadline (November 3) the unallocated money will be be used to increase the mileage amount up to 40 cents per mile or where the $1000 runs out, whichever comes first.   For the housing allowance, we will reimburse up to $60 per room for up to 2 rooms per school and no more than the number of speakers from that school.

All travel money will be set aside in the order in which student speakers pre-register.
All travel support will be paid (through the MAA) after the conference. Please save relevant receipts!

In order to apply for travel support, please sign the form near the bottom of the next page or submit the form via e-mail..

PRE-REGISTRATION FORM

School Affiliation _____   Contact Person _____

Address _____   Phone Number _____

_____   E-Mail _____

Attending:

Name	Housing?*	Gender	Fri/Sat/Both	Pizza?	Speaking?
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____

*Students from schools not receiving travel funds will be able to stay overnight in an SNC dorm. Please bring sleeping bags and pillows – you might be sleeping on the floor!

Name of Speaker: _____

Title of Talk: _____

Length of Talk (check one): ___ 15 minutes (preferred)   ___ 30 minutes   (if necessary)

Time Preference (check one): ___ Friday night   ___ Saturday morning   ___ No preference

Brief Abstract:

Special Audio/Visual Needs:

Our institution is applying for **travel support**: _____ (Signature of Faculty Sponsor)

(See previous page for more information.)

Duplicate this form as necessary and mail to: Rick PossMathematics

(or, preferably, respond by e-mail)   St. Norbert College

100 Grant Street

De Pere, WI 54115

DEADLINE: November 3, 2008, at 3:00 De Pere time!

Any questions? Contact: Rick Poss (920) 403-3198; FAX: (920) 403-4098; e-mail: rick.poss@snc.edu