Twenty-Fourth Annual

Pi Mu Epsilon

Regional Undergraduate Math Conference

November 6 – 7, 2009

Featured Speaker: Dan Kalman

American University

Please contact Rick Poss at rick.poss@snc.edu for more information.

Dan Kalman

Dan Kalman has been writing about and teaching mathematics for 30 years. A graduate of Harvey Mudd College (BS, 1974) and the University of Wisconsin (PhD, 1980) he is a Professor of Mathematics at American University, Washington, DC.   He previously held faculty positions at the University of Wisconsin, Green Bay, and Augustana College, Sioux Falls, among other institutions, and worked for several years as an applied mathematician at the Aerospace Corporation. He also served for one year as an Associate Executive Director of the MAA.

Kalman has been an invited speaker at numerous national and regional mathematics conferences (one of the first of which was the NE Wisconsin Math Seminar at St. Norbert College in fall, 1981), and has spoken to student clubs and PME chapters many times. His mathematical writing has been recognized with multiple MAA awards: Allendoerfer Awards in 1998 and 2002, Polya Awards in 1994 and 2002, and an Evans Award in 1997. He is the author of two books published by the MAA. Kalman has served on the Editorial Boards for several MAA publications, including *Mathematics Magazine*, *FOCUS*, *Math Horizons*, and the *Spectrum and Classroom Resource Materials* book series.

The Mathematical Elephant

To those outside of our field, math is a bit of a mystery. Beyond the familiar mathematics of arithmetic and algebra, what does the subject concern itself with? How does it really get used? And how can someone spend four years in college studying it? This talk will give a few answers. For those who already have a deep understanding of mathematics, the talk may help you answer questions about the nature of our subject. But whether you are a mathematical novice or expert, I hope this talk will your appreciation of some of the many facets of mathematics.

Provincial Polynomia: Uncommon Excursions for the Seasoned Visitor

This talk is for long time friends of Polynomia, who have wandered its pathways many times. I will guide the audience to some out of the way destinations that are easily accessible from the most well traveled and familiar thoroughfares of the realm. Such destinations show that Polynomia still has much to surprise, delight, and intrigue even the most seasoned visitors. The itinerary includes Horner evaluation, Lill's method, the curly-root function, and Marden's Theorem.

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 6, 2009

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

7:30 p.m	**Dan Kalman** "The Mathematical Elephant"

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

Pizza Social to follow immediately.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 2009

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

11:00 a.m**.**   **Dan Kalman** "Provincial Polynomia: Uncommon Excursions for the Seasoned Visitor"

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 $72.95 until at least October 6. 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 $2250 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 typically a limit of one mileage grant per school.   If there is money left at the application deadline (November 2) the unallocated money will be be used to increase the mileage amount up to 40 cents per mile or where the $1100 runs out, whichever comes first. For the housing allowance, we will reimburse up to $70 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..

Please encourage your students to speak. The more student speakers we have this year, the more likely we are to receive funding again next year.

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 lodging support will be able to stay overnight in an SNC dorm. Please bring sleeping bags and pillows – you might be sleeping on the floor!

We welcome student presentations on any topic and any undergraduate mathematics level. Sources could include: class projects, interesting solutions to problems, REU results, senior projects, or anything else that might appeal to undergraduate math students.

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:

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 Poss Mathematics

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

100 Grant Street

De Pere, WI 54115

DEADLINE: November 2, 2009, at 3:00 De Pere time!

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