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Undergraduate Mathematics Day at the University of Dayton Invited Talks

Dr. Robert Lewand Goucher College

The Fourth Annual Schraut Memorial Lecture

"How Not To Get Lost While on a Random Walk"

Abstract: What happens if you go on a random walk?

Will you ever return home? Well, sometimes yes (probably) and sometimes no (probably). During this talk we will derive some elementary identities in combinatorics and then use these results to discover the conditions that favor your not getting lost while out on a random walk.



Dr. Chikako MeseConnecticut College

"Curvature"

Abstract: We may have an intuitive idea of what it means for surfaces to be curved, but what does it mean for higher dimensional spaces to be

curved? In this talk, we will try to quantify curvature on a surface and try to extend this notion to three dimensional spaces. We will show that with an understanding of curvature, we can make sense of a universe which is finite but without boundary.