

# AUGSBURG

(The Augsburg College Mathematics Department Colloquium Newsletter)

## Upcoming colloquium:

September 3, 2014, Old Main 105

## **MATHEMATICS FACULTY MEET & GREET**

There will be no official speaker this time. Instead, come to meet and greet the math faculty including the new chair and the new tenure-track faculty member. As usual, there will be quality refreshments!

### Colloquium (and other seminar) lineup for the fall semester:

Sep. 3:	Meet & Greet
Sep. 17:	Miles Ott (Augsburg College)
Sep. 25 (Th):	Robert Vallin (Slippery Rock University)
Oct. 8:	Cory Haight-Nali & Taylor Kuramoto (student talks)
Oct. 22:	Becky Siekmeier (SciTechsperience)
Nov. 5:	???
Nov. 14 (F):	Justin Grammens ('96, Code 42) -- Mathematics AugSTEM seminar
Nov. 19:	???
Dec. 3:	???

### Featured Faculty Member

#### Miles Ott

We are pleased to welcome Miles Ott as a new faculty member. Miles majored in Mathematics and minored in Computer Science as an undergraduate, but also managed to take classes in canoeing, modern dance, tennis, Latin American studies, and furniture design. He pursued his interest in Public Health by earning an MPH in Epidemiology from the University of Minnesota, another Masters (this time in Biostatistics) from Harvard, and a PhD in Biostatistics from Brown University. Miles' research focuses on the statistical analysis of network data and link-tracing sampling designs. Outside of work, Miles enjoys traveling, baking with rhubarb, knitting baby hats in the shape of vegetables, and exploring the myriad of artistic offerings in the Twin Cities.



### Featured Mathematician

#### Maryam Mirzakhani, Stanford University

One of the most prestigious awards in the field of mathematics is the Fields Medal. This is a prize awarded every four years to two, three, or four mathematicians not over 40 years of age. For the first time ever, in 2014 this award went to a female mathematician, Maryam Mirzakhani (pictured above), originally from Iran. She received the award "for her outstanding contributions to the dynamics and geometry of Riemann surfaces and their moduli spaces." The other awardees of the Fields Medal in 2014 were Artur Ávila, Manjul Bhargava, and Martin Hairer. For an interesting blog about Dr. Mirzakhani, see <http://www.simonsfoundation.org/quanta/20140812-a-tenacious-explorer-of-abstract-surfaces/>.



### **PROBLEM OF THE WEEK:**

Suppose 5 monkeys take 5 minutes to eat 5 bananas.

- (1) How many minutes would it take 2 monkeys to eat 2 bananas?
- (2) How many monkeys would it take to eat 40 bananas in 40 minutes?

(Solutions are due to Prof. Bělik (handwritten or e-mailed) by the end of the day Friday, Sept. 12.)

