The Fullerton College Mathematics Colloquium
presents

Dr. Bill Cowieson

CSU Fullerton

"Conway's Thrackle Conjecture"

Abstract:

Admit it. When you've played scrabble, you've tried to artificially boost your score by claiming that "thrackle" is a word. Either that, or you've hoped that "pseudoforest" is a word. These are words, it turns out, that were invented by mathematicians interested in graph theory. It has been conjectured that every thrackle is a pseudoforest. As J. H. Conway has conjectured, this can be restated as saying that in every thrackle, there are at least as many paths as spots. Come to this talk so that you can get back to that scrabble game with confidence.

Don Frank

Fullerton College

"Aperys Theorem and the Question of Whether p-series for Odd Numbers 3 or Larger are Transcendental"

Abstract:

"Magimatician" Mr. Frank is currently the ENGAGE in STEM intern, helping to organize the Math Colloquium and its promotion. He is also a professional magician who can probably make a thrackle with balloons. Whether he does that or not, he will discuss, in this talk, the open question of whether or not p-series for odd p's greater than 3 are irrational, or worse, transcendental. He will also discuss Apery's Theorem for the $p = 3$ case, and Euler's results on p-series for even p. *Mentor: Dr. Dana Clahane*

Thursday, October 11, 2012
12:45-2:50pm
North Science Building, Room 623
Fullerton College
321 E. Chapman, Fullerton CA 92832-2095

Cookies and punch provided by ENGAGE in STEM, administered by the Fullerton College Office of Special Programs.