



Claremont McKenna College
Mathematics Department Invites You To Attend The Tenth

Atul Vyas

Memorial Lecture In Mathematics



Atul Vyas was an outstanding CMC student who was majoring in Mathematics and Physics. He tragically lost his life in a train crash that occurred on September 12, 2008 in Chatsworth, California. The Math Department at CMC fondly remembers Atul as someone who was equally excited by the power of mathematical abstraction and the possibilities for its applications.

In memory of Atul, the CMC Math Department hosts a yearly lecture series, aimed at a general audience, on the Creative Application of Abstract Mathematical Ideas. Our tenth lecture in the series will be given by Assistant Professor Jemma Lorenat, Pitzer College.

Making Sense: "A Historical Exploration Of Intuition In Mathematics"

Tuesday, November 21, 2017

4 pm - 5 pm

CMC Freeberg Forum

Speaker

Jemma Lorenat

Assistant Professor of Mathematics

Pitzer College

How do we come to know mathematics? One way is through our senses (mostly sight), which might be called intuition. This seems uncontroversial. But intuition is a complicated word with a storied past. For the past several hundred years, philosophical mathematicians have hypothesized about the types of intuitions used in mathematics. This talk will focus on the role of intuition in geometry during the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. From there, I will use the lens of intuition to examine the relationship between pure and applied mathematics, the shift in mathematical values over time, and the problem of translating intuition between different languages and cultural backgrounds. I hope this talk will lead to a lively discussion about contemporary uses of intuition in your own experiences teaching and learning mathematics.

A brief reception will take place prior to the talk at 4 pm and refreshments will be provided.

For more information, please contact Professor Asuman Aksoy, Crown Professor of Mathematics and Roberts Fellow of the Claremont McKenna College, Mathematics Department
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