

## The University of Mississippi Department of Mathematics

## **Departmental Colloquium**

Dr. Joseph Brennan University of Central Florida

## Commutative Algebras Associated to Graphs

Friday, April 29, 2011 2:00 P.M. Hume 331

Abstract: In the 1930's Oskar Zariski inaugurated the algebraization of geometry, a process that revolutionized the understanding of the field. Currently a similar phenomenon is taking place in graph theory, where algebraic methods are being developed to address questions about graphs. This talk will present to the audience some of the methods and results that have been developed. Rather than mere Baroque ornamentation these methods have found application in fields as diverse as phylogenetics and optimization. We will attempt to illustrate the power of these techniques.

There will be a party that night from 7-11pm at Dr. Spiroff's house.