Pi Mu Epsilon

The mathematics honors society for university students



Thursday, February 18, 2016 12:15-12:50 PM in Hume 201

Speaker: Dr. Samuel Lisi Title: *The Hairy Ball Theorem*

Imagine a soccer ball entirely covered in hair. The Hairy Ball Theorem says that you can't comb the hair flat everywhere — there will always have to be a tuft of hair sticking up somewhere. This famous theorem of topology was first stated by Poincaré (late 1800s) and proved by Brouwer in 1912. A different way of saying this is that if you consider the Earth and look at the windspeed at each point, there is at least one place where the wind is not blowing. This will lead us into an exploration of some basic topological properties of surfaces and their relationship to dynamical systems.

A one-time payment of \$10 covers your pizza lunch for all meetings this semester!

See you Thursday!