Welcome Back!

Happy New Year, and welcome to the Winter 2022 term. After an opening week of remote learning, we welcome the students back to campus and to in-person learning. Hopefully, with diligent masking behavior and living prudently, the college will be able to continue in-person learning throughout the term. Let's all work together toward this common, healthy, goal.

Professor Alan Taylor Has Retired

After more than 45 years, **Professor Alan Taylor** of the Union College Math Department has retired, becoming an emeritus faculty member. After earning his PhD at Dartmouth College, Professor Taylor joined the Union family in 1975.

Professor Taylor distinguished himself as an outstanding researcher and an award-winning teacher who served the college in uncountable ways. A logician by training, his work touched many fields of mathematics, including infinitary combinatorics, Ramsey theory, fair division, voting theory, and set theory. He authored seven books and published over 50 articles and book chapters. While at Union, Professor Taylor delivered over 10,000 class lectures, and did so with style. His brilliance in the classroom was rewarded both at Union, where he received the Stillman Prize for Teaching in 1998, and regionally, when he was awarded the Clarence F. Stephens Distinguished Teaching Award by the Seaway Section of the Mathematical Association of America in 2007. Additionally, Professor Taylor chaired the math department several times, helping to shape the department into its current form.

Professor Taylor's impact on the department, the college, and the worldwide mathematical community has been tremendous. He leaves big shoes to fill. We look forward to seeing what he will accomplish post-Union as an emeritus professor, and we wish him well.

Undergraduate Math Seminar

This term, the math department will continue to hold it undergraduate seminar. However, the day-of-week and the time-of-day will vary more than usual. Don't worry – the math newsletter will be here to keep you abreast of the seminar schedule. Stay tuned!

Math Modeling Contests: Apply Mathematics for a Chance to Win $10,000

The 2022 Mathematical Contest in Modeling (MCM) and Interdisciplinary Contest in Modeling (ICM) will take place **February 17-21, 2022**. These are international contests designed to provide students with the opportunity to work as a team to engage in modeling and problem solving, open to students of all disciplines. You will form a team of up to three students, choose one of six contest problems (continuous, discrete, data insights, operations research/network science, environmental science, and policy), and work over 96 hours to develop a solution to a real-world problem.

For contest and scholarship details and past years' problems, go to: www.mcmcontest.org. Training sessions will be provided. Please contact **Professor Jue Wang** (wangj@union.edu) if you are interested in participating.