Department of Mathematics

January 31, 2022

Undergraduate Math Seminar

This week's seminar is **TUESDAY afternoon**. Details, including the title and abstract of the talk, can be found on the posters around Bailey Hall.

• Tuesday, February 1, 4:50-5:50pm in Bailey 207.

Looking for **more talks**? Take advantage of new era of Zoom accessible talks and hear Union College Math **Professor Kim Plofker**, along with two international colleagues, as part of the



HOMSIGMAA Virtual Speaker Series, present "The sine of one degree and its history" online Wednesday, February 2, at 7pm (pitzer.zoom.us/j/82538219764?) Passcode: 428074.

Abstract: It has been known since antiquity that the trigonometric chords or sines of certain arcs or angles can be determined with geometric exactitude, while others can be computed only approximately. In particular, the chord or sine of any integer multiple of three degrees, or of any angle derived from any such multiple by repeated bisection, can be found exactly. But because of the theoretical impossibility of trisecting an angle under Euclidean constraints, it is not possible to construct exactly the chord or sine of one degree. However, those very quantities were necessary for mathematicians to produce tables of trigonometric functions. In this talk we sketch the history of mathematical techniques for computing the sine of one degree that were described in Arabic, Persian, Sanskrit and European sources.

Mark your seminar calendar: Next week, there will be two seminars:

- Tuesday, February 8, 4:50-5:50pm on Zoom (link coming next week)
- Thursday, February 10, 4:50-5:50pm in Bailey 207

Math Club Meeting: Thursday, February 3

The Math Club will be meeting on **Thursday, February 3** at **4:30pm** in the **Math Common Room, Bailey 204**. Join us to discuss and plan events for the club and possibly join the club's leadership team. If you are interested in joining the club but cannot attend this meeting, please contact Professor Paul Friedman (friedmap@union.edu).

Looking for Paid Summer Work?

The Academic Opportunity Program (AOP) is hiring Summer Tutor/Community Advisors. Two math tutors, one for precalculus and one for calculus will be hired. The program, including a week of orientation, runs from June 30, 2022 to August 6, 2022. To apply, complete the AOP Summer Program Employment application and submit **two** professional references (one of which must be a faculty member) using the Google recommender form.

CALCULUS HELP CENTER! Sunday - Thursday: 7:30 – 10:00pm Sorum House Seminar Room

