UNDERGRADUATE MATH SEMINAR

The next math seminar on the term will be

DATE: <mark>**THURSDAY, April 21**</mark>

Time &   **12:30 –** Refreshments in **Bailey 204**

Location: **12:55 – 1:45** Seminar in **Bailey 207**

Professor Hanson Smith

In this seminar, **Professor Hanson Smith** from the Department of Mathematics at the **University of Connecticut** will deliver the following talk:

Title: Richard Guy's Strong Law of Small Numbers and How Not to Make Friends

Abstract: In this talk we will work through a number of examples from Richard Guy's wonderful paper *The Strong Law of Small Numbers.* The main theorem is, "You can't tell by looking." Following Guy, we will prove this by intimidation. Audience participation, questioning, and guessing is highly encouraged. We'll conclude the talk with an exciting application to web comics.
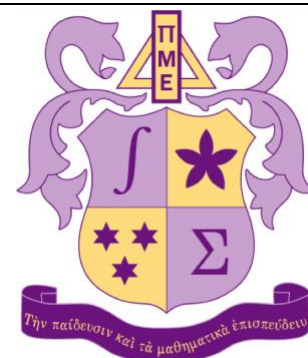
$2 + 1 = 3$ is prime.
$2 \cdot 3 + 1 = 7$ is prime.
$2 \cdot 3 \cdot 5 + 1 = 31$ is prime.
$2 \cdot 3 \cdot 5 \cdot 7 + 1 = 211$ is prime.
$2 \cdot 3 \cdot 5 \cdot 7 \cdot 11 + 1 = 2311$ is prime.

Does it continue?

Pi Mu Epsilon: Applications Due Friday at Noon

Pi Mu Epsilon (PME) is a national undergraduate math honors society. The PME chapter at Union is accepting applications for membership. To be considered for membership into Union's chapter of PME, a student must have

- taken at least two math courses at the 200-level or above;
- a minimum campus-wide GPA of 3.0 and a minimum GPA of 3.0 in all math courses that can be used to fulfill a math major;
- a demonstrated engagement and involvement, while at Union College, in the promotion of mathematics at Union College and/or broader community;
- an interest in joining PME, demonstrated by writing a few paragraphs/mini-essay in an email to **Professor Paul Friedman** (friedmap@union.edu) explaining your interest, your qualifications, and how you have supported and will continue to support the purpose and goals of PME. This email must be received by **noon on Friday, April 22nd.**

The national initiation fee for PME is $30. For more information, go to the website **pme-math.org**.

Math Seen Around Union

From left to right: **Professor Roger Hoerl** presenting in the April 14 math seminar; a comic by **Livi Gwinnett** in the Math Common Room; some glass-board Math 110 studying in ISEC; **Mickey Shea** studying a figure Newton used to help approximate the value of pi.

Next Math Club Meeting
Thursday, April 21 at 5:00 in Bailey 204, the Math Common Room

Calculus Help Center: Su, Tu, Th, 7:30-10:00pm, Sorum House Seminar Room