



Speaker: Thomas Banchoff
Brown University

Thursday, November 13, 2014
11:00 AM
125 Hayes-Healy Hall

Title: Distinguishing Cylinders from Moebius Bands

Abstract:

How can we see and test the differences between orientable and non-orientable strips on surfaces? This talk will use folds and self-intersections and inflection faces to give geometric interpretations of the first Stiefel-Whitney class for smooth and polyhedral surfaces in three- and four-dimensional space. Interactive computer graphics will provide the illustrations.