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**Speaker:** Mark Behrens  
University of Notre Dame

Friday, February 13, 2015  
4:00 PM  
129 Hayes-Healy Hall

**Title:** Homotopy groups of spheres - what we do, and don't know about them

**Abstract:**

The homotopy groups of spheres are the groups of homotopy classes of maps from an  $n$ -sphere to an  $m$ -sphere. This innocuous definition gives rise to some of the most notoriously difficult to compute groups in mathematics. I will describe what we know and don't know about these, and indicate why one should even care.