Graduate Student Seminar



Speaker: Victor Ocasio Gonzalez

University of Notre Dame

Monday, January 30, 2012

4:15 PM

229 Hayes-Healy Hall

Title: Polygonal Rooms Not Illuminable From Every Point

Abstract:

Imagine two people in a (polygonal) room made out of reflective material; can one person light a match and still not be seen by the other? Spoiler Alert!! The answer is Yes. This problem was first introduced by Ernst Straus in the early 1950's and remained open over forty years until George Tokarsky published a solution in 1995. This talk will focused on providing the proof of the solution in all its mind-numbing simplicity and later extrapolating the results to three dimensions.