Mathematics Colloquium

Why I study symmetric functions

Tony Mendes
Department of Mathematics
Cal Poly

Friday, October 7, 2016
4:10 – 5:00p.m.
Building 53 Room 213

Abstract

This will be an introductory talk about how to use symmetric functions to understand topics such as number theoretic functions, orthogonal polynomials, and representations of the symmetric group. I was motivated to give this talk after hearing that some students want to know more about faculty research, and symmetric functions have been a theme in some of my work. The intended audience is advanced undergraduates (some knowledge about the symmetric group would help), but everyone—including graduate students, visitors, and faculty colleagues—should expect to see interesting mathematics.

About the speaker: Tony Mendes has been a faculty member at Cal Poly since Fall 2004.