



Friday, April 30, 2004

OU to host annual meeting of Mathematical Association

By **Dawn Pauli**, contributing writer

Oakland University is hosting the annual meeting of the Michigan Section of the Mathematical Association of America (MAA) and MichMATYC, the Michigan Mathematical Association of Two-Year Colleges, Friday and Saturday, May 7 and 8.

About 200 people are expected to attend, including university, college and community college faculty, graduate and undergraduate students, high school teachers, mathematicians from industry, among others.

"OU undergraduates, graduate students and professors belong to the Mathematical Association of America. Several undergraduate and graduate students will be attending the meeting and some will be serving as assistants and helpers," said Jack Nachman, professor of mathematical sciences.

Special sessions will be devoted to talks by undergraduate and graduate students. Dan Steffy, an OU undergraduate student, will present a paper entitled, "A Combinatorial Approach to Solve the Exam Scheduling Problem." This paper is the culmination of work with Eddie Cheng, associate professor of mathematics, Serge Kruk, assistant professor of mathematics, and graduate students William Lindsey and Ray Kleinberg.

Speakers from around the country will present mathematical topics including direct search methods and rational algebraic varieties and topics in mathematics education, including advanced interesting mathematics before calculus. Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost Virinder Moudgil will welcome conference attendees to OU.

A panel discussion also will explore the collaboration between mathematicians and mathematics educators. It will be moderated by Charlene Beckmann of Grand Valley State University.

The last time the meeting was held at OU was in 1981. The meeting is rotated throughout universities and colleges in Michigan.

SUMMARY

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