Fall 2018 Undergraduate Seminar
Department of Mathematics

Two circles and only a straightedge

Dr. Fedorov
Assistant Professor, University of Pittsburgh

Date: Tuesday, September 18

Time: 12:00-12:50 pm

Location: Room 703, Thackeray Hall

Dr. Fedorov received his Master's and PhD at the University of Chicago. After being an assistant professor at Kansas State, he joined University of Pittsburgh in the beginning of 2017. Currently, he is teaching the Putnam seminar, an undergraduate course based on improving problem solving skills which prepares students for the Putnam exam in December.

A straightedge (a ruler without marks) is a device that can be used to connect any two points by a line but not to measure distances. The famous German mathematician David Hilbert proved that given a circle, it is not possible to construct its center using only a straightedge. Certain vagueness in his proof led to an error that laid undiscovered for more than 100 years... Pizza and drinks will be provided!

SPEAKER FOR NEXT WEEK:

Derek Orr

Organized by: Tom Everest, Derek Orr, Jeff Wheeler, Jeremiah Morgan, and Eugene Trofimov