

Minutes of the Math Club Meeting #1 of Thursday, September 24, 2009

We held our first meeting of Fall 2009 in room G220 at 1:00 p.m.. We started the year out by introducing the faculty, officers, and members of the club, both new and returning. We then enjoyed the free pizza and soda.

Following the opening introductions was the discussion of on-campus volunteer tutoring for upper level math classes. It was decided that the following members would provide tutoring for the indicated courses in room G119 at the specified dates and times on a weekly basis:

Linear Algebra: Tuesdays 3:30-4:30pm TUTOR: Scott Edenbaum

Calculus III: Mondays 1-2pm TUTOR: Jason Jasinski

History of Mathematics: Mondays 1-2pm TUTORS: Mihail Velikov, Michael Morici, Michele Jastrzembski, Jason Jasinski, Patrick Wall

We then went on to discuss who some of our guest speakers would be this year. Next Tuesday October 6, we will be having a guest speaker from Germany who will talk to us about his research in the field of history of mathematics. Some other suggested topics for guest speakers include careers in mathematics, graduate schools in mathematics, and other interesting topics in mathematics.

The Math club is also planning on having two movie nights throughout the year which will be held in Laurel Hall on upcoming Thursdays that will be determined soon.

We are still discussing potential ideas for our off-campus tutoring and any suggestions are welcome.

Also, on Saturday December 5, the Putnam Mathematics Competition will be held here at Ramapo College of New Jersey. It's a prestigious nation-wide mathematics competition. It is a valuable experience for students planning to apply to graduate schools in mathematics. Students interested in competing should contact Dr. Potocka by 9/29/09. Dr. McMurdy and Dr. Gillespie will be providing training sessions for the competition. Anyone interested in attending the training sessions who is not signed up for the competition should contact Dr. McMurdy directly.

The meeting concluded with a challenging math problem provided by Dr. McMurdy, which seemed to stump the whole room. Nonetheless, after getting a few hints, light bulbs turned on and we solved the problem as a group.

In addition, don't forget, the next meeting will be held in two weeks on a Tuesday, not Thursday, to accommodate our guest speaker.