Dresden Memorial Lecture 2019-2020

Monday, October 21st

Mathematics for Human Flourishing

Abstract: How is math tied to what it means to be human? Why does the practice of mathematics often fall short of our ideals and hopes? I'll describe how math connects to basic human desires, like beauty and freedom and justice, and how it builds virtues that contribute to a life well-lived. I'll also share what I've learned from a prison inmate who has helped me re-think what it means to do math well.

Tuesday, October 22nd

Voting in Agreeable Societies

When does a candidate have the approval of a majority? How does the geometry of the political spectrum influence the outcome? What does mathematics have to say about how people behave? When mathematical objects have a social interpretation, the associated results have social applications. We will show how some classical and new mathematics can be used to understand voting in "agreeable" societies. This talk also features research with undergraduates.

Francis Edward Su

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of Mathematics at
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**Monday, October 21st and Tuesday, October 22nd
SC 101, Refreshments 4:15pm, Lecture 4:30pm**