

CAL POLY HUMBOLDT
MATHEMATICS DEPARTMENT
PRESENTS THE 77TH KIEVAL LECTURE

APR. 7TH | 7:00PM | SCIB 135

SIMPLE PROBLEMS THAT ARE VERY HARD TO SOLVE: MY FAVORITE UNSOLVED PROBLEMS ABOUT POLYHEDRA

Dr. Jesús De Loera, UC Davis

Sadly the public has very little idea of what mathematicians do. Do they add bigger and bigger numbers? Do they balance big checkbooks? In this talk, I will try to give you a taste of my own research in computational geometry through objects that are very pretty and are familiar to everyone from a young age. Triangles, squares, cubes, or pyramids are familiar shapes from childhood. Polyhedra, are their high-dimensional versions, and turn out to be widely used in applied mathematics. Their beauty and simplicity appeal to all, but very few people know of the many easy-to-state but difficult-to-solve mathematical problems that hide behind their beauty. This lecture will have lots of nice pictures and will introduce the audience to some fascinating unsolved questions at the frontier of mathematical research and its applications. No prior knowledge beyond your memory of elementary school geometry will be assumed.



For more information on the Kieval Lecture Series, visit <https://math.humboldt.edu/get-involved/kieval-lecture>.

Members of the community are invited to attend this free lecture. In order to ensure the continued safety of our campus community, Cal Poly Humboldt asks all visitors to wear masks. Please be prepared to present a vaccination card with proof of vaccination or a negative COVID-19 test result from the last 72 hours, if requested by Humboldt staff.