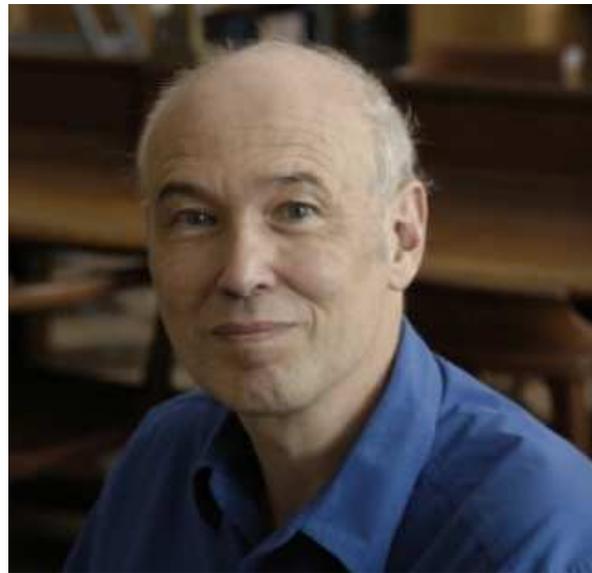


The SUMO Speaker Series for Undergraduates

Thursday, May 23rd
4:15-5:05, room 380C
(Food Provided)

Why did Deligne win the Abel Prize?

Professor Brian Conrad



ABSTRACT:

Since 2003, every year the Norwegian Academy of Sciences and Letters has awarded the Abel Prize; it has since come to be called "the Nobel Prize for mathematics". In March, this year's winner was announced: Pierre Deligne, at the Institute for Advanced Study in Princeton.

The technical details of his mathematical work are formidable, but the statements of some of his results can be communicated through concrete examples. In this way we aim to explain why many mathematicians considered it a foregone conclusion that Deligne would eventually receive the Abel Prize. We will assume familiarity with basic linear algebra, the notion of a finite group, and modular arithmetic.

sumo.stanford.edu/speakers