

## UNDERGRADUATE MATH SEMINAR

The next math seminar on the term will be

**DATE:** **THURSDAY, April 11**

**Time &** **12:30** – Refreshments in **Bailey 204**

**Location:** **12:50 – 1:45** Seminar in **Bailey 207**

In this seminar, **Professor Kim Plofker** of the Union College math department will present the following talk.

### **Title: Cycles, Spheres, and Demons: Understanding Eclipses in Pre-modern Mathematics**



Professor Kim Plofker

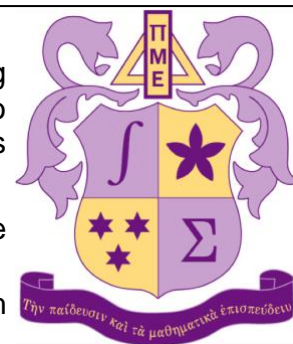
For thousands of years, lunar and solar eclipses have been very significant events in human beings' understanding of the cosmos. They also played a huge role across cultures in the shaping of mathematical practice, as a discipline and as a profession. This talk investigates how and why early mathematicians managed to turn these awe-inspiring phenomena into something familiar and predictable.

## **Pi Mu Epsilon – Math Honors Society Accepting Applications**

Pi Mu Epsilon (PME) is a national undergraduate math honors society. In Spring 2013, a chapter of PME was established at Union College. Now we are looking to induct new members who have demonstrated an ability and interest in mathematics consistent with PME's purpose and goals.

To be considered for membership into Union's chapter of PME, a student must have

- taken at least two math courses at the 200-level or above;
- a minimum campus-wide GPA of 3.0 and a minimum GPA of 3.0 in all math courses that can be used to fulfill a math major;
- a demonstrated engagement and involvement, while at Union College, in the promotion of mathematics at Union College and/or broader community, (examples include, active involvement in the Union College Math Club, in the Association of Women in Mathematics, in the Hudson River Undergraduate Mathematics Conference, in the Calculus Help Center, in math tutoring through the Kenney Center, in math problem solving training sessions and/or competitions, regular attendance at the Union College Math Department Seminar);
- an interest in joining PME, demonstrated by writing a few paragraphs/mini-essay in an email to **Professor Paul Friedman** ([friedmap@union.edu](mailto:friedmap@union.edu)) explaining your interest, your qualifications, and how you have supported and will continue to support the purpose and goals of PME. This email must be received by **noon on Friday, April 19**.



The national initiation fee for PME is \$30. This covers the cost of membership and also a one-year (two issue) subscription to the MPE Journal. Members of MPE can also purchase other PME items such as tassels for graduation, t-shirts, etc. For more information, go to the website [pme-math.org](http://pme-math.org).

## **Casualty and Actuarial Society (CAS): Student Central Summer Program**

[The CAS Student Central Summer Program](#) is a free eight-week online program, designed by practicing actuaries to support university students' career growth by providing technical and soft skill development, as well as mentorships and networking opportunities. The CAS also offers a six-week independent program for those looking for a more flexible schedule. Both programs are described in more detail on the CAS Student Central website, as well as application information. Hurry, though! Applications should be submitted by **April 10**; one recommendation is required with the application.