CCSU
DEPARTMENT OF MATHEMATICAL SCIENCES

COLLOQUIUM

Friday, October 4
2:00 – 3:00 PM
Maria Sanford, Room 101

MATHEMATICS OF ORIGAMI: TOPIC FOR AN HONORS SEMINAR AND ACTIVITIES FOR TRADITIONAL MATHEMATICS CLASSES

VERA CHEREPINSKY

POST UNIVERSITY

Abstract: Most schools with an undergraduate mathematics major offer an Honors Seminar class, in some form. The topic of the seminar is typically selected by the instructor. Whether the course is successful depends in large part on the topic, in particular on its level relative to the students' preparation.

In the first part of this presentation, I will describe the use of "Mathematics of Origami" as a topic in such a course, along with the logistics of running the course, the resulting successes, and the lessons learned, based on the Honors Seminar class I taught at Fairfield University during the Fall 2009 semester. The second part will involve hands-on origami activities that colloquium participants can incorporate into traditional mathematics classes. Some examples include Fujimoto Approximation for dividing a length of paper into equal Nths and Folding equilateral triangles in a square as activities in Calculus classes, as well as Folding the parabola as an activity for Precalculus.

For further information:
gotchevi@ccsu.edu 860-832-2839
http://www.math.ccsu.edu/gotchev/colloquium/