

CCSU
DEPARTMENT OF MATHEMATICAL SCIENCES

COLLOQUIUM

Friday, April 16
2:00 – 3:00 PM
Maria Sanford, Room 101

EULER'S GAMMA FUNCTION

CHARLES WAIVERIS

CENTRAL CONNECTICUT STATE UNIVERSITY

ABSTRACT

Leonhard Euler discovered the gamma function in 1729 as a solution to finding an interpolating relation extending the factorial function from the positive integers to the real numbers. Since then there have been hundreds of papers written about the gamma function and it has attracted the attention of some of the finest mathematicians, including, Gauss, Riemann, Weierstrass, and Artin. How did Euler do this and what's so special about $\Gamma(x)$?

This talk is elementary in nature and requires only calculus to understand.

(This talk is in celebration of Leonhard Euler's 303rd birthday on April 15.)

For further information:

gotchevi@ccsu.edu 860-832-2839

<http://www.math.ccsu.edu/gotchev/colloquium/>