

CCSU
DEPARTMENT OF MATHEMATICAL SCIENCES
COLLOQUIUM

Friday, September 25

3:00 – 4:00 PM

Maria Sanford, Room 101

STEFAN BANACH (1892–1945)
AND HIS REMARKABLE BANACH SPACES

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SPRINGFIELD COLLEGE

Abstract: Stefan Banach (1892–1945) was a unique and brilliant Polish mathematician whose life story is as extraordinary as his contributions to modern mathematics. In this colloquium, Andrew Perry will share the story of Banach, a mathematician who bridged deep abstract ideas with an extraordinary personal journey, showing how intellectual brilliance and human resilience came together.

Born in Kraków, Poland, to humble circumstances and famously “discovered” by Professor Hugo Steinhaus while discussing math in a park, Banach rose to become a leading figure in Polish mathematics and a founder of modern functional analysis. We consider Banach’s remarkable journey—from his unconventional path to a doctorate and the creation of the concept of Banach spaces (complete normed vector spaces), one of the most important ideas in mathematics. Equally captivating is the collaborative spirit he fostered at the legendary Scottish Café in Lwów, where Banach and his colleagues would scribble ideas on marble tabletops (giving rise to the famous “Scottish Book” of problems). Through wartime adversity and an unwavering passion for discovery, Banach helped establish a vibrant Polish school of mathematics and left an indelible legacy.

To join us online use the following link: <https://ccsu.webex.com/meet/gotchev>

For further information: gotchevi@ccsu.edu; 860-832-2839; <http://mathcolloquium.sites.ccsu.edu/>