UMW Colloquium Announcement

Department of Mathematics

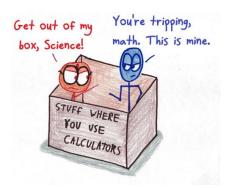
The Unlikely Friendship of Math and Science

Presented by

Ben Orlin

Math with Bad Drawings

Tuesday, November 6, 2018, 12:30 p.m. B6 Trinkle Hall



Abstract: Math and science are often lumped together - in universities, on bookshelves, and in clunky acronyms. But what, exactly, do this hard-nosed pragmatist and soft-spoken dreamer have in common? On the one hand, mathematics is a toolkit, crafted to serve real-world purposes. On the other hand, math is a realm of pure logic, ideas pursued for their own sake. My question: How is it that, from knot theory to meta-logic to higher-dimensional geometry, the math that sounds the most fanciful turns out to be the most useful?