



Thursday November 6th, 5:00pm  
Witten Learning Center 160

The department of mathematics welcomes  
**Professor John Stillwell**  
University of San Francisco

# What Does "Depth" Mean in Math?

## History, Foundations, and Logic

Every mathematician believes that certain theorems are "deep," but the concept of depth does not have a formal definition. By looking at some famous theorems, ancient and modern, we will study some candidates for "depth" at various levels, particularly the undergraduate level. With these examples in hand we hope to discuss whether any concepts of logic now available can give "depth" a precise meaning.

Professor Stillwell received his PhD from MIT in 1970, working under Hartley Rogers, Jr. From 1970 until 2001 he taught at Monash University and in 2002 he began teaching at the University of San Francisco. He is renowned for his mathematical exposition and in 2005 he was the recipient of the Mathematical Association of America's prestigious Chauvenet Prize for his article "The Story of the 120-Cell."