

VCU Discrete Mathematics Seminar

The Oddball's Oddball: The Unusual Life of Paul Erdős

Prof Ron Gould
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Wednesday, March 24
1:00-1:50

Zoom! @ <https://vcu.zoom.us/j/92975799914>
password=graphs2357



Time Magazine called him the Oddball's Oddball, yet hundreds of mathematicians called him Uncle Paul and worked around his eccentric behavior. He lived without a permanent home, and at times without a country, yet he never stopped producing important mathematical results. In this talk I will describe the life of Paul Erdős, one of the most important mathematicians of the 20th century and the most prolific. Paul's enormous influence on so many branches of mathematics changed the very nature of the way mathematics research is conducted. His influence was so great people measure their status by their Erdős number. I was lucky enough to know him and work with him. I will try to convey the important events of his life, some of which are strange or amusing.

For the DM seminar schedule, see:

<https://www.people.vcu.edu/~nobushaw/dms.html>