2017 Herbert Howe Lecture in Mathematics

Nitu Kitchloo

Abstraction, Reality and the Study of Mathematics

May 18, 3–4pm, Olin Hall 105
reception to follow in Olin Rotunda

Abstract: In this talk, I will describe how some very basic Mathematical questions that can be seen as an exercise in pure abstraction have a much deeper significance to the real world we live in. This talk will lead the audience through some of the landscape of modern Geometry and Topology. No background (besides high school algebra) is required.

About the speaker: Dr. Kitchloo received his PhD from MIT in 1998. He is a Professor and current Chairman of the Department of Mathematics at Johns Hopkins University, and a recipient of the Simons Fellowship for 2017–2018.

His early work was on the topology of certain infinite dimensional groups known as Kac-Moody groups. He has since worked on various topics including Symplectic Topology, Differential Geometry, Stable Homotopy theory and Homotopical aspects of Mathematical Physics.