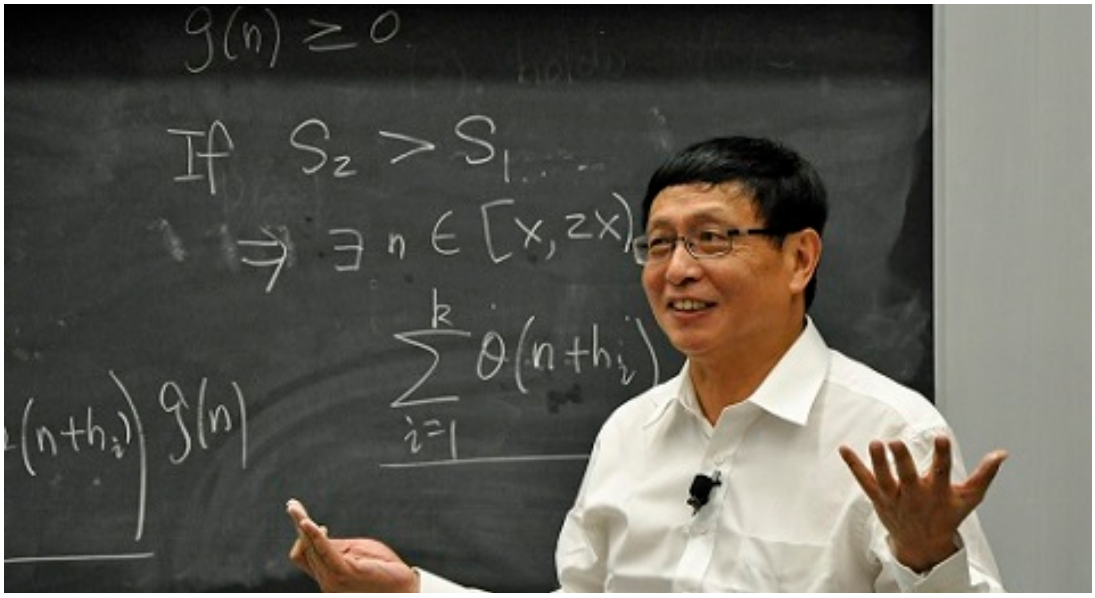
Department of Mathematics

Fall 2016 Colloquium Series



"Counting from Infinity: Yitang Zhang and the Twin Prime Conjecture"

A film by George Csicsery, ZALA films, MSRI

Thursday, November 17, 2016

Behavioral and Social Sciences Building Room 166, 4 pm

In April 2013, a lecturer at the University of New Hampshire submitted a paper to the Annals of Mathematics. Within weeks word spread: a little-known mathematician, with no permanent job, working in complete isolation, had made an important breakthrough toward solving the Twin Prime Conjecture. Yitang Zhang's techniques for bounding the gaps between primes soon led to rapid progress by the Polymath Group, and a further innovation by James Maynard. ***Counting from Infinity*** *is a study of Zhang's rise from obscurity and a disadvantaged youth to mathematical celebrity. The story of quiet perseverance amidst adversity, and Zhang's preference for thinking and working in solitude, is interwoven with a history of the Twin Prime Conjecture as told by several mathematicians, many of whom have wrestled with this enormously challenging problem in Number Theory—Daniel Goldston, Kannan Soundararajan, Andrew Granville, Peter Sarnak, Enrico Bombieri, James Maynard, Nicholas Katz, David Eisenbud, Ken Ribet, and Terry Tao.* (*Description from Zala Films www.countingfrominfinityfilm.com*)

For a complete abstract, go to http://www.humboldt.edu/math/news-and-events/math-colloquium

We cordially invite you to the Pre-Colloquium Tea on the third floor of the BSS building at 3:30 pm on Thursday.