

BI-CO MATHEMATICS
COLLOQUIUM

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*“Topology of Links and Knots
(Or, how I learned to enjoy math)”*

Monday, February 15, 2010

Talk at 4:15 – KINSC H109

Tea at 4:00 – KINSC Math Lounge, H208

Abstract: Ever had that frustrating experience with tangled iPod earbuds wires? It seems that no matter how careful you are as stuff them into a pocket, the earphones always come out knotted. Is it always possible to undo the damage? We will discuss knots and some of their invariants. These will tell us whether we can untangle a knot, or not. We will start with elementary polynomial invariants and eventually will graduate to scarier sounding words.

HVERFORD COLLEGE