

Mathematics Day

Celebrate math with people who love math!

Saturday, December 2, 2006

Carver Science Center, Simpson College
Indianola, Iowa

RSVP to speller@simpson.edu by November 27.

- 10:00 – 10:30 **Check-in**
- 10:30 – 10:35 **Welcome** **Dr. Rick Spellerberg**
- 10:35 – 10:50 **Mathematics is more than just algebra** **Dr. Murphy Waggoner**
In high school you spend a lot of time on algebra, geometry and possibly calculus. These are important skills and the basis for studying more mathematics, but on the job, there are more important skills than FOIL. What will you learn in college to prepare you for a career using mathematics, and how will it differ from high school?
- 10:50 – 11:10 **Who studies mathematics?**
You will meet current mathematics students and hear why they study mathematics, what careers they plan to pursue with their math degree and what studying mathematics in college is like.
- 11:10-11:30 **What does a mathematician do?** **Jean Clipperton, Senior**
In the real world, the answers are not all in the back of the book, and mathematicians develop their own formulas. This interactive talk about current research in graph theory will show you one type of problem that mathematicians are currently solving.
- 11:30 – 11:45 **Mathematic majors can do anything!** **Dr. Rick Spellerberg**
Some students are interested in math, but may not think of majoring in it because they do not know what jobs they can get with a math degree. We will discuss the wide variety of fields college graduates have gone into using the skills they learned while studying mathematics. We will also explain why a math degree is valuable to future employers.
- 11:45 – 12:00 **Connect with other mathematicians.**
We will introduce you to our mathematics faculty, students and alums. You may be surprised at how many people have studied mathematics and the wide variety of jobs they do.
- 12:00 – 1:00 **Lunch and informal conversations**
A free lunch will be provided to give you time to talk to people who are actuaries, teachers or use mathematics in some other way, and you can find out what their jobs are like and how they use mathematics.