A skeptical history of numbers

Monday January 16, 4:00 PM
Room 230, Fields Institute
222 College Street, Toronto

Quantum theory, virtual particles, curved space and dark energy all emerged from a critical assessment of the foundations of physics in the 20th century. In the same period, a foundational crisis threatened the edifice of mathematics itself. Focusing on the concept of numbers, this talk will recap some of the great leaps of imagination in the history of mathematical thought, describe the foundational crisis, critique the attempts to rescue certainty, and assess the current state of affairs.

Curtis T. McMullen
Harvard University

Two lectures on Riemann surfaces, dynamics and moduli spaces

Tuesday January 17, 4:00PM
Room 230, Fields Institute
222 College Street, Toronto

Wednesday January 18, 4:00PM
Room 6183, Bahen Centre for Information Technology
40 St. George Street, Toronto

The Blyth Lecture Reception will take place after the public lecture at 5:00 p.m. on Monday January 16, 2017 in the Department of Mathematics’ Lounge, 40 St. George Street, 6th floor

Special thank you to the Fields Institute for its support for this event!