$\mathbf{T}_{\text{EMPLE}} \; \mathbf{U}_{\text{NIVERSITY}} \; \mathbf{M}_{\text{ATHEMATICS}} \; \mathbf{C}_{\text{OLLOQUIUM}}$

Alan W. Reid

University of Texas at Austin

will speak on

The geometry of canonical curves

ABSTRACT: Suppose that M is a 1-cusped hyperbolic 3-manifold. A component of the $SL(2, \mathbb{C})$ character variety containing the character of a faithful discrete representation is called a canonical component. Thurston proved that a canonical component is a curve (a canonical curve). This talk will discuss various questions about these canonical curves: for example, which curves arise as canonical curves, what are geometric and algebraic features of canonical curves and how do they relate to M. If time permits we will discuss a possible connection to expander graphs.

> Monday, April 28, 2013 Lecture at 4:00 pm Coffee, tea, and refreshments from 3:40 pm Room 617, Wachman Hall Department of Mathematics