

02/07/12 **MATHEMATICS DEPARTMENT, FERRIS STATE UNIVERSITY**
MATH COLLOQUIUM, TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 2012,
11:00 AM, STARR 138

SPEAKERS: Timothy Reinhout, Department of Mathematics, Ferris State University

TITLE: *A Brief History of e.*

Abstract:

The history of e and its origins are very unclear. Presented to most simply by stating what it is and what it can do, without sharing why. e was first referenced in print in a table of logarithms printed nearly 400 years ago, with no explanation of where it came from. Upon the wide acceptance of the idea of infinity, e can be derived from the question "what is the value of \$1 invested for 1 year at 100% interest, compounded... infinitely?" This is where we find the definition of e .

REFRESHMENTS: 11:00 AM, STARR 138

Please visit Math Colloquium website at

http://www.ferris.edu/htmls/colleges/artsands/Math/MATH_COLLOQUIUM/ColloquiumWeb/index.html