

LOOK WHO'S TEACHING

This semester four more graduate assistants in math began teaching classes for the department. In addition to working on their theses and taking graduate courses, they also are teaching one or two sections of math classes. Here's a little information on each one.

Duane Vick:



Duane's hometown is Cookeville, Tennessee. He received a bachelor's degree in music in 2012 from Tennessee Tech. In

2018, he received a second bachelor's degree from Tennessee Tech in mathematics. He is currently working on his master's degree in mathematics and is focusing on learning set theory and algebraic topology. Fun fact: Duane went to middle school here in Foundation Hall back when it was Prescott Central Middle School.

Kayla Sims:



Kayla is from Cleveland, Tennessee. She completed her bachelor's degree in mathematics from Tennessee Tech in 2018.

Kayla has accepted a full-time position at Radiance Technologies as a Microelectronic Security Engineer and will begin her new career upon her graduation this spring.

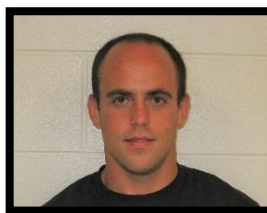
Sam Hines:



Sam comes to us from Greeneville, Tennessee. He received a bachelor's degree in mathematics and a bachelor's

degree in Chemistry from Tennessee Tech in 2018. He is studying asymptotic behavior of arithmetic functions. His interests include computer science and number theory. He plans to continue his education in computer science after he finishes math graduate school.

Thomas Clayborn:



Thomas is from Watertown, Tennessee. He received his bachelor's degree in math in 2016 from Austin Peay State

University in Clarksville, Tennessee. His interest is mostly in analysis and he is doing his thesis on normed vector spaces under the direction of associate professor Damian Kubiak.

MATH CLUB

The Math Club is going strong again this year. Their first meeting of the year was held on Thursday, September 5, 2019. Election of new officers was conducted. This year's Math Club officers are President, Brelyn Grant; Vice-President, Brendan Roberts; Secretary, Sarah Robinson; and Treasurer, Madison Pearson. The Math Club advisor is professor Richard Le Borne. The club meets

once a month during dead hour. Remember, the Math Club is not just for math majors. Any student who loves math and enjoys being around mathematicians is encouraged to join.

FRESHMEN MEET AND GREET



The Department of Mathematics held a Meet and Greet for our incoming freshmen and faculty on Thursday, September 19. Those attending enjoyed pizza and sodas while making new acquaintances. We would like to welcome all our new freshmen and transfer math majors to Tennessee Tech and wish you a happy and productive time while you're with us.

VA TECH REGIONAL MATH CONTEST

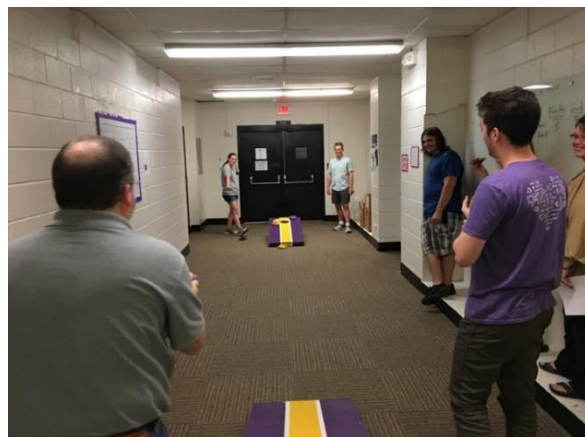
The 41st Annual Virginia Tech Regional Mathematics Contest will be held on Saturday, October 26, at 9 am in Foundation Hall room 251. This is the conference room inside of room 250. All TN Tech undergraduate students are eligible to participate. High school students currently enrolled in a TN Tech mathematics class are also qualified.

It is free to register and to participate in this prestigious contest. Virginia Tech has a total of \$1,000 available for prizes: \$750 for the overall competition and \$250 restricted to Virginia Tech students.

You may register via e-mail or stop by the Math Office, Foundation Hall 220, to register. If registering via e-mail please (1) write your name (last, first), (2) major and class (e.g. math2019, phys2020, or high school 2019), and (3) currently enrolled in Mathematics (e.g. MATH1920) if any, and send it to ywliu@tntech.edu with the subject title "Virginia Tech Math Contest." For more information, visit the website at <http://intranet.math.vt.edu/people/plinnell/Vtregional/>

CORNHOLE

Members of the math faculty are sharpening up their skills in cornhole. On Thursday, September 5, 2019 the graduate students took on the mathematics faculty in a cornhole match. It was touch and go, but the faculty was able to win three out of four games. A rematch is in the making.



Our freshmen math majors took on the math faculty on Friday, October 4th. The faculty was again the big winner with six games to one.

The faculty is now interested in challenging other groups from the math department. The Math Club has already accepted the challenge and a game date will be announced soon.



If you and some of your friends would like to challenge the math faculty to a cornhole match, just stop by the math office, Foundation Hall 220, and let us know. Maybe our seniors are interested in a game or math majors who are interested in a certain area of math such as topology or statistics. The possibilities are endless or maybe not. We'll have to ask a statistician about that.

If and when these matches happen, we'll let you know on Instagram.

PREVIEW DAY



The Tennessee Tech Department of Mathematics was represented at Preview Day



on Saturday, October 5, by Andy Towne, Madison Pearson, Allan Mills, Sam Narimetla, and Kayla Sims. Our diverse group of ambassadors from the math department included the department chair, a senior, a freshman, a graduate student and one of our distinguished faculty. Thank you all for your assistance at this event. Thanks also to professor David Smith, for allowing us to use several of his puzzles.

THANK YOU VICKIE



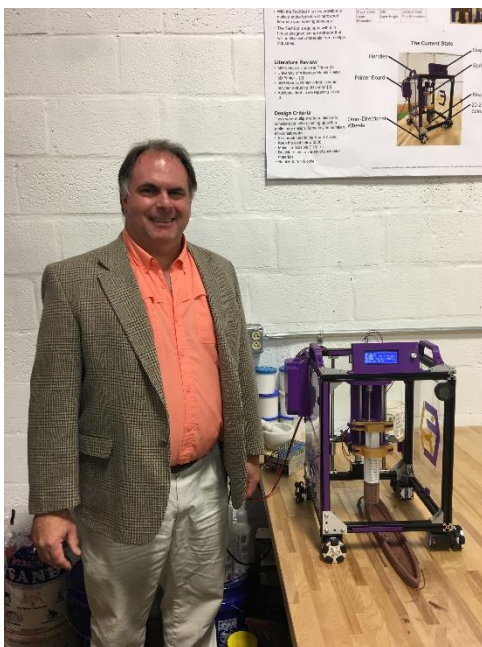
Department of Mathematics administrative associate Vickie Mayberry, recently received a 30 year pin for her 30 years of service to Tennessee Tech. Vickie has dedicated her entire 30 year career working for the math department.

Dean Paul Semmes presented Vickie with her 30 year pin during the staff advisory meeting held on Wednesday, September 11, 2019.

Thank you Vickie for your hard work and devotion to the Tennessee Tech Department of Mathematics.

TECHBOT

Michael Allen, associate professor of mathematics, is shown with TechBot, an original creation of Tennessee Tech faculty and students. Allen is co-lead on the team that created TechBot. Ismail Fidan, professor in manufacturing and engineering technology is the lead investigator of the research team.



This 3D printer is different from other 3D printers as it does not use filament, powder, laser, or resin. It can use any paste type material, including food.

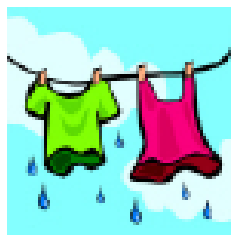
TechBot will be on display in Washington D.C. at the 26th National Advanced Technological Principal Investigators' Conference on October 26-28. TechBot has received a provisional U.S. patent due to its unique features.

ALUMNI NEWS

Congratulations to Keith Terrill on accepting a tenure-track position at Motlow State Community College in Smyrna, Tennessee.

Noncommutative Algebra Corner

Hello all! I am, associate professor Veerapen, the resident noncommutative algebraist in the department and I often get asked, “What is noncommutative algebra?” Indeed, what is



it? For an intuitive understanding, think of any activity in your daily life that requires you to proceed in a particular order. For instance, when you wash and dry clothes, you wash them first and then, dry them. Otherwise, you would have wet clothes! This is an example of a noncommutative operation in your daily life. Can you think of any such operations in your daily life?

TN TECH MATH ON INSTAGRAM

The Math Department is pleased to announce that we have a new Instagram account. Follow us @tntechmath.

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