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String-Math 2011 Conference

Public Lecture on Strings & Geometry

Cumrun Vafa

Donner Professor of Science
Harvard University

Monday, June 6, 2011
5:30 pm
David Rittenhouse Lab, A1
University of Pennsylvania
209 South 33rd Street

Abstract: In the past couple of decades, string theory has emerged as the prime candidate for a unified theory of quantum gravity. Geometrical aspects of string theory, and, in particular, the existence of extra dimensions, shed light on many important physical questions including those related to microscopic structure of black holes and confinement of strong forces. Certain aspects of these developments will be reviewed in this talk.

Professor Vafa is a renowned scholar in theoretical physics who has made fundamental contributions to string theory, which is a framework for the study of quantum gravity and the fundamental laws of nature. He is the Donner Professor of Science at Harvard University, a fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, a member of National Academy of Sciences, a recipient of the AMS Leonard Eisenbud Prize for Mathematics and Physics, and a recipient of the Dirac Medal of the International Center for Theoretical Physics.

The public lecture by Professor Vafa is part of the String-Math Conference 2011, held at UPenn, June 6-11, 2011. This is the first conference in the series of large meetings bringing together mathematicians and physicists who work on ideas related to string theory.

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