Department of Mathematics and Statistics Colloquium

Triangles and princesses and bears! Oh my!

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Abstract: A friend of mine, Ben Schmidt, came across an interesting math puzzle in an old Russian puzzle book. The puzzle involves three princesses and three bears, all arranged in the plane. Its solution points to a certain class of triangles that intrigued us, so Ben and I investigated this class further. Our investigations have lead us to some very interesting mathematics involving geometry, computer approximation techniques, mathematical biology, and even hints of quantum mechanics! In this talk, I will describe the puzzle, its solution, and some of the math that has come out of our study.

Monday, October 1 at 3:50 in Roop 103

Refreshments at 3:30