UCCS Department of Mathematics
Math Distinguished Lecture Series

DR. JAMES MITCHELL
UNIVERSITY OF ST. ANDREWS

DATE:
OCTOBER 20, 2016

TIME:
12:30PM-1:30PM
(REFRESHMENTS AT 12:15PM)

LOCATION:

KRAEMER FAMILY LIBRARY
3RD FLOOR APSE

Mathematical Problems that Cannot be Solved

Abstract: Many early experiences of mathematics involve learning methods for solving certain types of problems, such as quadratic equations, finding derivatives in calculus, and so on. A conclusion that is often drawn from this is that every problem in mathematics can be resolved by means of some mechanical method. At the start of the 20th century this view was shared by many mathematicians. They sought to remove human ingenuity from mathematics and to find ``a universal procedure for determining the truth or falsity of any mathematical statement''.

In this talk I will address the question of whether or not all of mathematics can be reduced to a mechanical procedure, and what precisely a mechanical procedure is in the first place.

For More Information please contact the UCCS Math Department at
(719) 255-3311 www.uccs.edu/math