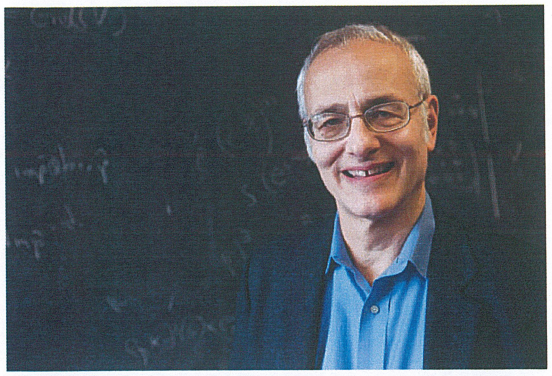

The Allegheny College Mathematics Department

Presents Guest Speaker

# Philip Kutzko

Professor of Mathematics, University of Iowa

# Euclid and Descartes

Henderson Auditorium, Quigley Hall

Allegheny College

Thursday, March 1, 2012

4:15 pm (Note new time)

Statue of Euclid in Oxford
Source: math open reference.com

Abstract: Mathematics and, in fact, all of the sciences, changed fundamentally in the seventeenth century for reasons that have never been satisfactorily explained. We will contrast the approach to mathematics in the modern era with that found in Euclid by considering the different approaches to two questions: Which regular polygons may be constructed with a straightedge and a compass? Is there an infinite number of prime numbers? We will then consider some of the implications of this fundamental shift for the way that we do mathematics today in the United States.

Descartes
Source: Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy

Refreshments will be available after the talk.

Sponsored by the Department of Mathematics.
Funded by the William Beazell Memorial Fund.

For more information, contact Harald Ellers at hellers@allegheny.edu.

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