

PORCELLI LECTURE SERIES

Don Zagier

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Professor Don Zagier is a world expert in the area of number theory. He was born in Heidelberg, Germany, but grew up in the United States. He began his mathematical career early, finishing high school at the age of 13, undergraduate education at MIT at 16, Ph.D. studies at Oxford, England, at 21, and receiving Habilitation, akin to tenure, from Bonn University at 23. A brilliant career followed, punctuated with seminal papers in the field, and many prestigious awards, including Carus Preis, Schweinfurt (1984), Frank Nelson Cole Prize in Number Theory (1987), Prix Elie Cartan, Académie des Sciences (1996), Chauvenet Prize of the Mathematical Association of America (2000), and Karl Georg Christian von Staudt Preis (2001). Professor Zagier is currently one of the directors of the Max Planck Institute for Mathematics in Bonn, Germany, and a professor at the Collège de France in Paris, France.

The **Q** of “q-series”
Wednesday, April 23, 2008, 3:40 pm
Howe-Russell E 130

The **Q** of “quadratic”
Thursday, April 24, 2008, 3:40 pm
Howe-Russell E 130

The **Q** of “quantum”
Friday, April 25, 2008, 3:40 pm
Howe-Russell E 134

The subject is q-series as they appear in combinatorics—already starting with Euler and Gauss and continuing notably with Ramanujan—but then also in modular forms, topology, and quantum theory, with lots of surprising cross-connections.

