## Speaker: Ralph Howard (USC)

Title: Lower bounds for averaged chord lengths of a closed curve.

Abstract: Let  $c: \mathbf{R}/L\mathbf{Z} \to \mathbf{R}^2$  be a convex curve (the boundary of a convex set) with a unit speed parametrization (that is ||c'(t)|| = 1 for all t) and length L. If A is the area enclosed by c, then

$$4A \le \int_0^L \|c(t) - c(t + L/2)\| dt$$

with equality if and only if c is a circle. The proof involves little more than elementary vector calculus. Some other lower bounds for the averaged chord length  $\int_0^L \|c(t) - c(t + L/2)\| dt$  will be given including some for curves in space. This is joint work with Mohammad Ghomi.