

Date: September 27, 2007.

Speaker: Dr. Simon G. Chiossi, Institut für Mathematik, Humboldt Universität zu Berlin.

Title: An overview of special geometry.

Abstract: According to some, 'differential geometry' (DG) is about differentiating twice. This is why the notion of 'curvature' is so important. I will try to clarify to an audience of non-mathematicians what 'curvature' and 'torsion' are all about. This fits exceptionally well with modern theoretical physics, where these notions play a decisive role. String theory also provides extra-solid reason for pursuing the investigation of so-called "special geometries", with an eye to dimensions 6 and 7.