

Mathematics Department Colloquium

Organizer: Vaughan Jones

Thursday, 4:10–5:00pm, 60 Evans

Jan. 18 **William Minicozzi**, Johns Hopkins

Embedded minimal surfaces

The study of minimal surfaces is a central problem in geometry and analysis that dates back to the 1700's when the catenoid and helicoid were discovered. I will survey recent advances, focusing on joint work with Toby Colding of MIT/NYU that describes the structure of a general embedded minimal surface in terms of the catenoid and helicoid. I hope to give an overview of how these results have played a role in the solution of some old problems.