Sin-Min Lee

SJSU

Lonely Wolf:
The legend of Alexander Grothendieck

March 11, 2015, MH320

Abstract: Prof. A. Grothendieck passed away on Nov. 13, 2014. He was a genius in this century, a grand master in Functional analysis and algebraic geometry. However, in his last 20 years he lived as a hermit in Ariège — a small village isolated from his family, friends and mathematical community. Grothendieck was my mentor who arranged me to study mathematics in France. I will give some recollections of the years 1970–1979 when I lived and studied in France and my interactions with him. I will also address why he abandoned mathematics in the talk. The talk is based on my ongoing book about Grothendieck's life and work.

Background: No particular background necessary.

About the speaker: Sin-Min Lee received his Ph.D. in mathematics from the Stevens Institute of Technology and taught in the math and CS departments at SJSU for over 25 years until retiring in 2011. He has written several hundred research papers, primarily in graph theory, and published many books in Hong Kong, Taiwan, and China.

Snacks in MH331B at 2:30 pm
Talks start at 3 pm

For more information, see our full schedule at:

http://www.math.sjsu.edu/∼hsu/colloq/