



The Math/Stats Colloquium  
Department of Mathematics and Statistics  
San José State University



# Cornelia Van Cott

USF

*Sometimes Pi Equals 4*

MARCH 4, 2020, MH320

**Abstract:** Most of your mathematical life, you have known that pi is an irrational number somewhere between 3.1 and 3.2. But if we exchange the usual Euclidean norm for others, pi can be any of an *infinite number* of different values. What are these values? What does a pi-value indicate about its associated norm and vice versa? You will be surprised at the number of twists and turns that we encounter when we leave the safety of the Euclidean world for these new territories.

*Background:* Students should know how to find the distance between two points on the plane. No further specialized knowledge is required.

**About the speaker:** Cornelia Van Cott received her Ph.D. from Indiana University in geometric topology. She is an associate professor and the chair of the Mathematics & Statistics Department at the University of San Francisco.

SNACKS IN MH331B AT 2:30 PM

TALK STARTS AT 3:00 PM

For more information, see our full schedule at:

<http://www.timhsu.net/colloq/>