

WILLIAM P. THURSTON

MATHEMATICAL SCIENCES RESEARCH INSTITUTE and UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, BERKELEY

will deliver the

LEONIDAS ALAOGLU MEMORIAL LECTURE

On the Communication and Understanding of Mathematics

Tuesday, February 22, 1994, 4:15 p.m.

151 Sloan

California Institute of Technology

WILLIAM P. THURSTON

Dr. William P. Thurston was born in 1946, graduated from new College of Sarasota Florida in 1967, and obtained a Ph.D. in Mathematics from Berkeley in 1972. He is currently the Director of the Mathematical Sciences Research Institute and Professor at the University of California at Berkeley. He also serves as codirector of the Geometry Center in Minneapolis.

Dr. Thurston's primary interest is three-dimensional geometry and topology. He discovered a profound connection between three-dimensional non-Euclidean geometry and three-dimensional spaces such as the space surrounding a knot. He also has interests in dynamical systems and in the theory of groups and symmetry, as well as in the visualization of mathematics with the aid of computer graphics.

Dr. Thurston is a winner of the Veblen prize in geometry (awarded by the American Mathematical Society), the Alan T. Waterman award of the National Science Foundation, and the Fields Medal, which is the highest prize in mathematics and is awarded by the International Congress of Mathematicians. He is a member of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences and of the National Academy of Sciences.



The Leonidas Alaoglu Memorial Lecture was established by friends and family of the late Leonidas Alaoglu in recognition of his great talents, his distinguished contributions to mathematics, and his long friendship with Caltech. The Institute is privileged to honor his memory with a lecture each year by an outstanding mathematician.

CALIFORNIA INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

LEONIDAS ALAOGLU MEMORIAL LECTURE IN MATHEMATICS 1994

