

CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, LONG BEACH

# THE MATHEMATICS COLLOQUIUM

presents

**Francis Bonahon**

Mathematics Department, University of Southern California

speaking on

**The Poincaré Conjecture, the Geometrization  
Conjecture, and beyond**

Friday, April 13, 2007

12:00PM-1:00PM

**FO3-200A**

**Abstract:** The recent proof of the Poincaré Conjecture, a century-old problem in 3-dimensional geometry, has made many headlines this summer. I will explain what the Poincaré Conjecture was, and also introduce its less talked about (but perhaps more important) extension the Geometrization Conjecture. I will try to convey why topologists cared about these problems, and what the current and future impact of these breakthroughs is likely to be. The talk will assume no sophisticated mathematical background beyond calculus.