

The 2006 Schnert Lecturer



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Professor Brian Winkel is the Editor-in-Chief and a Founding Editor of *Cryptologia*, a journal devoted to all aspects of cryptology. He is also Editor-in-Chief and Founding Editor of *PRIMUS*-Problems, Resources, and Issues in Mathematics Undergraduate Studies, a journal devoted to all aspects of teaching undergraduate mathematics. He is senior faculty member in the Department of Mathematical Sciences at the United States Military Academy, West Point, NY. He has taught in a liberal arts setting (Albion College), an engineering setting (Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology), and now a military setting (West Point). Originally schooled in Noetherian rings (PhD Indiana University, 1971) his real passion is mathematics applied. He enjoys teaching a modeling and technology approach to learning mathematics.

2006 James Schnert Lecture

Cipher Busting by Edgar Allen Poe, Jules Verne, William F. Friedman - and Beyond

7:30 pm Monday, October 9, 2006
Otto Budig Theatre (University Center)

This talk will present some strategies for busting cryptograms and then move on to discuss several methods of busting ciphers from literary sources using counting and statistical approaches. Cryptology, the study of making and breaking ciphers, offers rich historical and mathematical material for study, and we shall touch on both.

