MATHEMATICS DEPARTMENT SEMINAR SCHEDULE
January 6 – 10, 2003

All seminars are held in Boyd Graduate Studies unless otherwise noted

WEDNESDAY, January 8, 2002

Graduate Student Seminar
2:30 p.m., Room 302
Speaker: Tanya Cofer, University of Georgia
Title of talk: *Syllabi and first week issues*

Faculty and Graduate Social
3:00 p.m., Room 409
Coffee, Tea, Cookies

THURSDAY, January 9, 2003

Faculty and Graduate Social
3:00 p.m., Room 409
Coffee, Tea, Cookies

Colloquium
3:30 p.m., Room 304
Speaker: Professor Michel Brion (Institut Fourier)
Title of talk: *Geometry of flag manifolds*
Abstract: Flag manifolds are projective algebraic varieties having many symmetries; examples include projective spaces, quadrics, grassmanians.... The talk will discuss some basic questions on algebraic subvarieties of complex flag manifolds. To any such variety, one can attach numerical invariants that generalize the degree of a subvariety of projective space. This raises the following problems, which are easy in projective space and quite open in general: do there exist subvarieties with prescribed numerical invariants? Among them, do there exist smooth ones? What about subvarieties with the smallest numerical invariants?