

EMU Department of Mathematics and Statistics

presents

The Winter 2023 Donald Buckeye Lecture

Thursday, March 30th, 2023

5:00pm in 204 Pray-Harrold

Solving Mathematical Mysteries

Dr. Jenny Quinn

University of Washington – Tacoma
Mathematical Association of America Past President

Abstract: Much as mysteries in fiction consider evidence, find common patterns, and draw logical conclusions to solve crimes, mathematical mysteries are unlocked using the same tools. This talk exposes secrets behind a numerical magic trick, a geometric puzzle, and an unknown quantity to find a fascinating pattern with connections to art, architecture, and nature.

Speaker Bio: Dr. Jennifer Quinn is professor of mathematics at the University of Washington Tacoma. Jenny has held many positions of national leadership in mathematics, including Executive Director of the Association for Women in Mathematics, co-editor of MAA's *Math Horizons*, and Director of Publications at the MAA. She received an MAA Haimo Award for Distinguished College or University Teaching and a Beckenbach Book award for *Proofs That Really Count: The Art of Combinatorial Proof*, co-authored with Arthur Benjamin. As a combinatorial scholar, Jennifer thinks that beautiful proofs are as much art as science. Simplicity, elegance, transparency, and fun should be the driving principles. As President of MAA 2021-2022, Jenny worked to do what was needed when it was needed to keep MAA strong and build community during pandemic isolation. She chronicled everything in her blog *Math in the Time of Corona*.

Questions contact Dr. Amy Shell-Gellasch at ashellge@emich.edu



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