



FRAMINGHAM STATE UNIVERSITY  
100 State Street, P.O. Box 9101  
Framingham, MA 01701-9101

**SEVENTEENTH ANNUAL  
PRESKENIS LECTURE**

***WHAT HAT ARE YOU  
WEARING?  
AN INTRODUCTION TO  
THE HAT GAME***

**SUSAN LOEPP  
WILLIAMS COLLEGE**



**WEDNESDAY, APRIL 24, 2019**

**Abstract:** We first introduce, and play, a team game for three players involving hats. We discuss possible strategies for the game, and explore how to maximize the chances for winning. We then generalize the game and our strategies to more than three players. Perhaps surprisingly, the Hat Game has connections to error-correcting codes.

Dr. Susan Loepp is the 2010 winner of the NES/MAA Award for Distinguished College or University Teaching, a 2012 winner of the Mathematical Association of America's Deborah and Franklin Tepper Haimo Award, and one of the 2013 inaugural Fellows of the American Mathematical Society. She earned her Ph.D. from the University of Texas at Austin, and her research area is commutative algebra. Dr. Loepp has supervised research for more than fifty undergraduate students, and she frequently serves as a faculty advisor for the REU program at Williams College.

A dedicated teacher committed to excellence, a serious scholar, a popular son of South Boston, and a gentleman, Ken Preskenis had a passion for mathematics and for sharing that love with others, especially youngsters. He joined the faculty at Framingham State College in 1977 after teaching at Newton College and Boston College. Ken was the author of a number of articles in analysis and mathematics education, a regular attendee and contributor at NES/MAA meetings, a South Boston Athletic Hall of Famer, and a recipient of the *Michael E. Glynn South Boston Community Service Award*. The *Kenneth J. Preskenis Scholarship Fund* has been established in his memory at Framingham State University.

We thank

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and

- Sarah Santiago and the Office of Campus Events for making the reservations, arrangements, and set-up for Dr. Loepp's presentation and the reception.

Please join us next year for the *Eighteenth* Annual NES/MAA Preskenis Lecture.