

# MSCS MESS

Department of Mathematics, Statistics, and Computer Science  
St. Olaf College, Northfield, MN 55057  
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No Colloquium or Research  
Seminar

## REU Panel

Interested in learning more about Research Experiences for Undergraduates (REUs)? The department is host an information session and panel (featuring students who have previously participated in REUs) on Monday, December 10, from 5-6 PM in RNS 310. Both pizza and answers to your questions will be available at this event!

## PME Applications!

Applications are open to join Pi Mu Epsilon, the Mathematics honor society. Applicants must meet the following criteria:

- a 3.5 Math GPA
- a 3.0 regular GPA
- completion of a transition course by the end of the Spring semester
- a declared math major

Applications should be in your email (Assuming you have declared a math major). Contact Karina (Zikan1@stolaf.edu) if you have any questions. Make sure to get your application in by Dec. 13.

*To submit an article, event, or anything else for publication in the mess, email jadow1@stolaf.edu; to receive the Mess digitally each Friday, email habero1@stolaf.edu; visit <http://wp.stolaf.edu/mscs/mcs-mess/> for a digital archive of previous MSCS Mess issues.*

## MAA/NCS Results are In!

Congratulations to the participants in this year's MAA-NCS Team Competition! St. Olaf placed 3 teams in the top 10 (against 60 teams from 23 other schools), including Jakob Hofstad and Taylor Tan's team that placed second with a score of 94/100!

## Some Exam Tips

Find yourself stuck on a hard math problem? Try cancellation to make things easier! It works with... Simple arithmetic!

$$\bullet \frac{16}{64} = \frac{1}{4}, \quad \frac{95}{19} = \frac{5}{1}$$

Calculus!

$$\bullet \frac{d}{dx} \frac{1}{x} = -\frac{1}{x^2} = \frac{-1}{x^2}$$

Need more help? The Center for Advising and Academic Support has tutoring available on an appointment or drop-in basis for just a few more days! See the website or the calendar (<https://goo.gl/hVh26R>) for more information.

## Good Luck on Finals and Happy Holidays!

Thanks for reading! We wish you all the best of luck on finals and with interim; we'll be back in February!

Will Jadowski, Editor  
Dave Walmsley, Faculty Adviser  
Ellen Haberoth, Mess Czar