

# MSCS MESS

Department of Mathematics, Statistics, and Computer Science  
St. Olaf College, Northfield, MN 55057  
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## Today's Research Seminar

Title: A Dynamical Framework for Modeling Fear of Infection and Frustration with Social Distancing in COVID-19 Spread  
Speaker: Bruce Pell  
Date: **Friday, March 11**  
Time: 3:30pm  
Location: RNS 204

**About the talk:** The novel coronavirus SARS-CoV-2 was first identified in Wuhan, China during December 2019 and quickly spread throughout the world via the globally-connected travel network. Early in the pandemic, nonpharmaceutical mitigation strategies were used to slow the disease's spread, including school closures, social distancing and masking campaigns, border restrictions, work-from-home orders and social distancing. In this talk, I will introduce a modeling framework for incorporating the population's fear of infection and frustration with social distancing into dynamical models of disease spread.

## NSM Student Action Team Event

**Today, March 11**, from **5pm till 7pm** in the **Buntrock Sun Ballroom**, the NSM Student Action Team will be holding a panel event about nav-

igating STEM majors at St. Olaf. Several senior, underrepresented STEM majors will speak about their future plans, their achievements, and the barriers they've faced. This event is designed for students who are underrepresented in some way, and for students interested in learning more about disparities in STEM. Dinner will be provided!

## Meet Prof. Kondrakunta at Linux Ladies Event

On **Monday, March 14**, from **4pm till 5pm**, stop by **RNS 204** to meet our new CS faculty member, Prof. Sravya Kondrakunta! Prof. Kondrakunta will be talking about her research and her experiences as an academic, with time provided for questions. This event is sponsored by Linux Ladies.

## Statistics/Data Science Alumni Career Panel

Also on **Monday, March 14**, from **6pm till 7:15**, log onto **this Zoom link** to attend a statistics/data science alumni career panel! Seven St. Olaf alumni working in a variety of statistical and data science roles will be taking questions about their career paths and any advice they have to give.

*To submit an article, event, or anything else for publication in the Mess, email [mcgowa2@stolaf.edu](mailto:mcgowa2@stolaf.edu); to receive the Mess digitally each Friday, email [habero1@stolaf.edu](mailto:habero1@stolaf.edu); visit <http://wp.stolaf.edu/mscs/mcs-mess/> for a digital archive of previous MSCS Mess issues.*

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