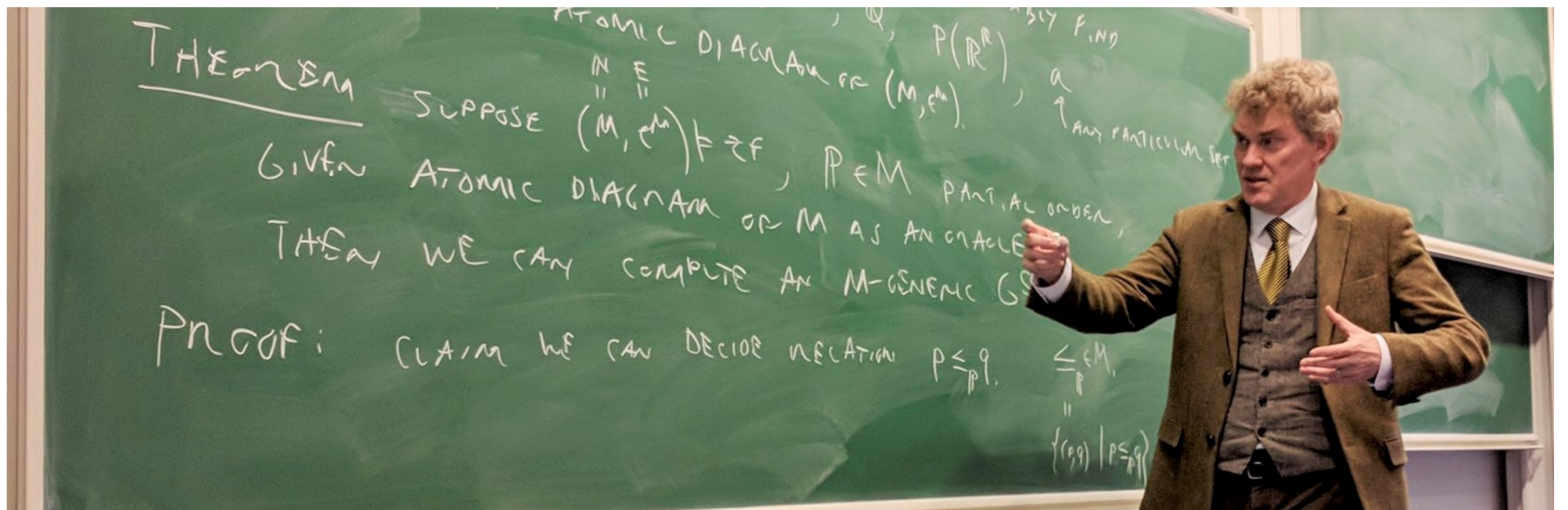


2025 WILLIAM REINHARDT MEMORIAL LECTURE

Joel David Hamkins

John Cardinal O'Hara Professor of Logic
University of Notre Dame



How we might have taken the Continuum Hypothesis as a fundamental axiom, necessary for mathematics

I shall describe a simple historical thought experiment showing how our attitude toward the continuum hypothesis might easily have been very different than it is. If our mathematical history had been just a little different, I claim, if certain mathematical discoveries had been made in a slightly different order, then we would naturally have come to view the continuum hypothesis as a fundamental axiom of set theory, necessary for mathematics, indispensable even for the core ideas of calculus.

Time and Place

Tuesday, March 11, 1:45pm, KOBL 342
Please join us!