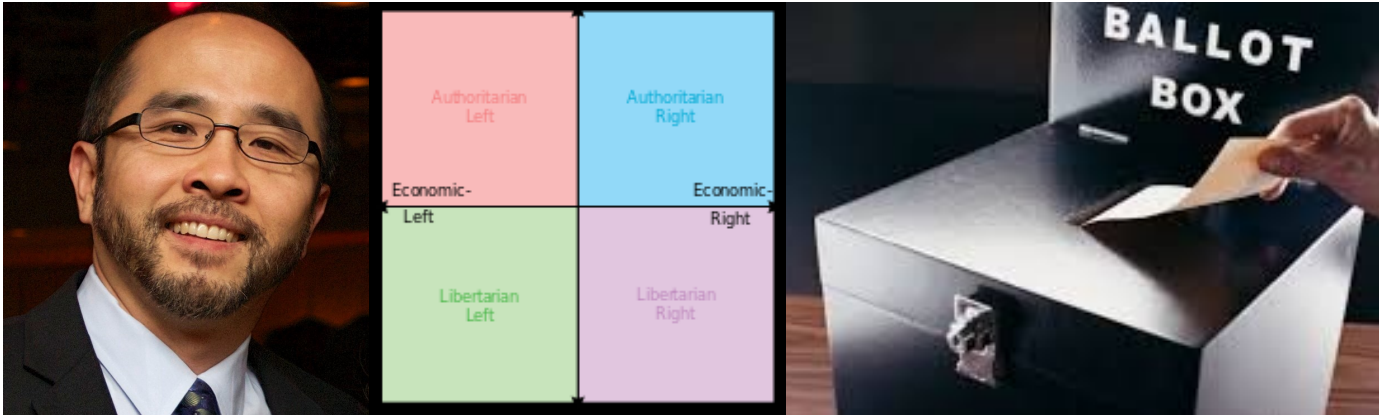# Humboldt State University
Department of Mathematics presents
The 69th Harry S. Kieval Lecture

Thursday, February 2, 2017
7:30 pm, Science B, Room 135
"Voting in Agreeable Societies"
Francis Su, Ph.D.
Harvey Mudd College

When does a majority exist? How does the geometry of the political spectrum influence the outcome? What does mathematics have to say about how people behave? When mathematical objects have a social interpretation, the associated results have social applications. We will show how some classical mathematics about the geometry of sets and their intersections can be used to model people's preferences and understand voting in "agreeable" societies. This talk also features research with undergraduates.

Francis Edward Su is the Benediktsson-Karwa Professor of Mathematics at Harvey Mudd College. He received his B.S. in Mathematics from the University of Texas at Austin and his Ph.D. from Harvard University. He is currently President of the Mathematical Association of America. His research is in geometric combinatorics and applications to the social sciences, and he has co-authored numerous papers with undergraduates. He has received multiple NSF research grants for his work. He also has a passion for teaching and popularizing mathematics. From the Mathematical Association of America, he received the 2001 Hasse Prize for expository writing, and the 2004 Alder Award and the 2013 Haimo Award for distinguished teaching. He authors the popular Math Fun Facts website and is creator of "MathFeed," the math news app. His hobbies include songwriting, gardening, photography, and theology.

**The Kieval Lecture presents some popular and broad aspects of mathematics
attractive to undergraduates and the general public**

For more information go to: http://www2.humboldt.edu/math/news-and-events/kieval-lecture

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