

Math and Stat Colloquium

Thursday, March 3

3:30pm NR 105

Refreshments will be served in the Lund Hall Foyer at 3:00pm

Speaker:

Zalman Usiskin

**Professor Emeritus of Education and Director of the
University of Chicago School Mathematics Project**

**“Performance with Fractions: A Demonstration of Cultural
Differences within the United States and Overseas”**

Abstract: This talk examines several problems involving fractions that have been given on large-scale assessments, released to the public, and discussed by researchers in the field. These discussions demonstrate surprising differences in the ways in which people respond to items, exposing differences in cultures. (This description is purposely brief and vague because I do not wish to give away the surprises!) Lessons from these differences can guide us into what teachers need to know about fractions.

