



Albany Chapter of Sigma Xi Meeting

DINNER & LECTURE TO BE HELD

-at-

The College of Saint Rose
Dining Rooms 1 & 2
Campus Activity Center

Thursday March 15, 2007

OUR GUEST SPEAKER WILL BE

Ariel Caticha

Professor of Physics
University at Albany
Talk entitled:

The Future of Entropy

The concept of entropy has been shrouded in a fog of mystery ever since it was discovered (or was it perhaps invented?) in thermodynamics in the mid 19th century. Subsequent generations of scientists have recreated the concept in their own image and as a result entropy has been variously interpreted as a measure of irreversibility, disorder, information, uncertainty, and complexity. The sheer number of such interpretations suggests that we have not yet reached the end of the road. Looking to the future, I will argue for a point of view in which entropy is liberated from its roots in physics to play a leading role in all sciences as a tool for processing information, a tool for reasoning. As an enticing example of the potential of this approach within my own field of physics I will briefly discuss how it might affect our notions of space and time.

6:00 PM Executive Committee Meeting (45 minutes, new members/leaders welcome)

6:45 PM Reception and Dinner (A buffet with a variety of choices including both meat and vegetarian selections, salads, rolls and butter and desserts.)

7:45 PM Lecture (open to all)

The per-person cost of the meal is \$20.00, \$10 for students/retirees.

You must make reservations for dinner by 9:00 AM, Monday, March 12, with Dr. Seth Chaiken, sdc@cs.albany.edu, CS Dept. LI-67A, UAlbany, Albany NY 12222
Phone: (518)442-4282