Shapes of Constant Width

It is a great honor for me to speak in the Marjorie Lee Browne Colloquium series and to help celebrate her legacy this Martin Luther King Jr. Day. In my talk, I will discuss a favorite topic of mine: shapes of constant width. In the plane, they are closed convex curves which have the property that any two parallel supporting lines are the same distance apart in all directions. A fundamental problem involving these curves is to find one which encloses the smallest amount of area. This was resolved long ago, and I'll explain a few ways to address this problem. I'll also mention what is known in three dimensions, including that the least volume shape has yet to be found.

Monday, January 18, 2021
4:00-5:00 p.m.

Zoom link https://umich.zoom.us/j/94360517246
Passcode 314668

The Colloquium honors Dr. Marjorie Lee Browne, the first African-American woman to earn a PhD in Mathematics from the University of Michigan. It is supported by the Carroll V. Newsom fund.

For information please see lsa.umich.edu/math/seminars/mlk/