#### Department of Mathematics, University of California San Diego

### Food For Thought Seminar

# Pieter Spaas

#### Fantastic Noncommutative Topological Spaces and Where to Find Them

#### Abstract:

We will discuss a historical theorem of Gelfand and Neumark characterizing abelian C\*-algebras. The main indication for the importance of this result is the fact that it relates two areas in math, namely topology and operator algebras. We will take the time to discuss the ideas behind the proof of this beautiful theorem as well as some other applications and related ideas.

**Special Note:** 

This seminar is intended for ALL graduate students in the math department, independent of their specific background or interests. No prerequisites beyond standard undergraduate math are required.

## Monday, October 9, 2017 12:00 PM AP&M 5402