



NORTHERN ARIZONA UNIVERSITY

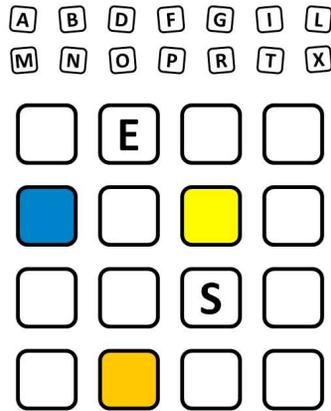
On this day in 1697, Newton received two challenge problems from Johann Bernoulli, one of which was the Brachistochrone Problem published in *Acta eruditorum* the previous June and addressed "to the shrewdest mathematicians in the world." The next day Newton posted his solution to the Royal Society. When Bernoulli saw the anonymous solution, he recognized it as "ex ungue leonem" (as the lion is recognized by his paw).

FAMUS: January 29, 2016

Friday Afternoon Math Undergrad Seminar meets on Fridays at 3:00-4:00pm in Room 164 of the Adel Math Building. Refreshments are always served!!

The mathematics of Boggle logic puzzles Speaker: Dr. Dana C. Ernst (NAU)

Boggle (© Hasbro) is a popular word search game where players compete to find as many words as they can in a 4×4 grid of letters. On the other hand, a Boggle logic puzzle is the game of Boggle played in reverse. A list of words is given and you need to recreate the board. In this talk, we will discuss some of the mathematics behind Boggle logic puzzles. In particular, we will summarize some of the known results and highlight a few open problems.



- EAST
- TAXED
- FIRST
- TANGS
- BLOAT
- EXAM
- MEAT
- POSTED
- BRIDE
- AMONG

In the second half of FAMUS, I plan to discuss my path from hating mathematics as a child to falling in love with mathematics to eventually earning my PhD and becoming a professor of mathematics. I hope to share a bit about what I love about mathematics, as well as the joys and struggles of teaching.

ALL MATHEMATICS MAJORS ARE ENCOURAGED AND EXPECTED AND ENCOURAGED TO ATTEND