# VCU Discrete Mathematics Seminar

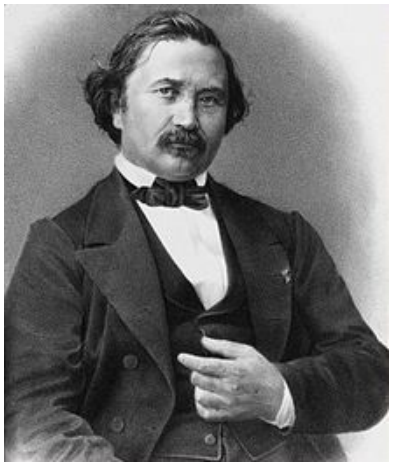
## *A Proof of Bertrand's Postulate*

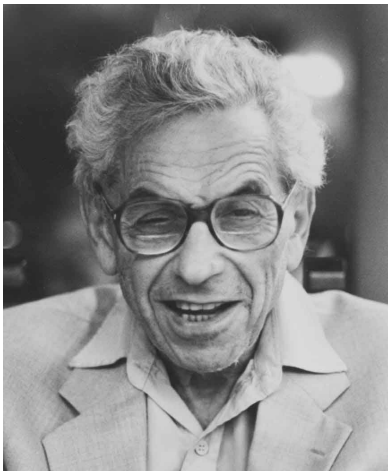
## Prof Dan Cranston
## VCU!

Tuesday, December 2
12:30–1:20
4119 Harris Hall

Bertrand's Postulate states: For every positive integer $n$, there is some prime number $p$ with $n < p \leqslant 2n$. This result was conjectured in 1845 by Joseph Bertrand, who verified it for all $n < 3 \times 10^6$, and it was proved five years later by Chebyshev (nearly 50 years before the prime number theorem was proved). I'll present a beautiful proof of this result due to Paul Erdös. Here's a couplet from Paul.

**Chebyshev said it, and I'll say it again. There's always a prime between n and 2n.**





For more information on our fall schedule, see:
http://www.people.vcu.edu/~dcranston/DM-seminar/