

Annual C. Dwight Lahr Lecture
Tuesday, November 16, 2021
3:15PM -- 008 Kemeny Hall

Professional Empathy

In this talk I will discuss my own strategies and difficulties with working towards a more inclusive environment in various aspects of my professional career: as a member of the community of mathematics, as a faculty member, a teacher, a mentor and as a colleague.

I'll focus on particular examples that I hope will be easy to relate to, including hiring, graduate admissions, course scheduling, high school outreach, advising and teaching. I will try to explain how framing these issues through a lens of empathy, human relationships and group membership gives some insight into building processes which support inclusivity, and how this relates to diversity and equity. I will also describe some of the main pitfalls I've identified in this process, and the strategies I try to use to deal with them.



Daniel Krashen is a Presidential Professor of Mathematics at the University of Pennsylvania. Dr. Krashen's research is in algebra and arithmetic geometry, specifically the study of division algebras, quadratic forms, and linear algebraic groups. These areas have connections to a wide range of fields, including physics and cryptography. He has been awarded multiple NSF grants, including a CAREER award and the prestigious Presidential Early Career (PECASE) award. He is a fellow of the American Mathematical Society. Dr. Krashen has been active in promoting outreach and diversity in mathematics at a range of levels, from middle school through early career professors, including in his work on the editorial boards of the Notices of the American Mathematical Society and the American Mathematical Monthly.