

**The Department of
Mathematical Sciences
Welcomes**

2021 Taft Lecturer

**Dr. Steve
MacEachern**

**Professor of Statistics & Department Chair
The Ohio State University**



**Thursday, November 18th 2021
Room 4400 Aronoff (DAAP Building)
3:40-4:40 pm**

Statistics, Mathematics, and Reality

Data science – the process of extracting information from data to gain an understanding of the world or to make a decision – has grown explosively over the past several decades. Stories routinely appear in the media trumpeting the successes of data science. The discipline is firmly rooted in the traditions of data analysis, yet often becomes algorithmic when implemented, leading some to question its reliability. In parallel, there has been an extensive development of the foundations of statistical inference. This talk will describe some of the major foundational concepts upon which data science rests and will illustrate surprising consequences of these concepts. No technical background is needed.

**Refreshments will be served 2:45-3:20 pm in the Math Faculty &
Graduate Student Lounge Room 4118 French Hall West**