Jean E. Rubin Memorial Lecture
Thursday, November 19, 2009
4:30 p.m.
BRNG B268

Refreshments will be served prior to the talk at 4 p.m. in the Math Library Lounge (3rd floor MATH).

Q-curvature in Conformal Geometry

Abstract
The notion of Q-curvature was introduced by Paneitz-Branson in the early 1980s as a direct generalization of the Gaussian curvature on a compact surface. The notion was originally defined only for manifolds of dimension four. In recent years, there have been intensive efforts to study the subject mainly due to its conformal invariant property and its connection to some geometric invariants in the asymptotic hyperbolic, conformally compact Einstein manifolds. In this talk, I will give a brief survey of the subject with emphasis on applications to problems in conformal geometry.