1125-05-1780 **Arran Hamm** and **Kristen Melton*** (meltonk6@mailbox.winthrop.edu). *A Lower Bound on the Hadwiger Number of a Random Subgraph of the Kneser Graph.*

Hadwiger's Conjecture is one of the most famous open problems in graph theory; it states that $h(G) \geq \chi(G)$ for any graph G (where $h(G)$ is the hadwiger number of G). A theorem of Kostochka gives a lower bound on $h(G)$ in terms of the average degree of G. This talk will be focused on giving a lower bound on $h(G)$ where G is a (binomial) random subgraph of a Kneser graph. (Recall: A Kneser graph with parameters n and k, denoted $KG(n,k)$, has the set of k–subsets of $\{1,\ldots,n\}$ as its vertex set where two k–sets are adjacent if and only if they are disjoint.) So G is given by keeping each edge of $KG(n,k)$ independently with probability p. For certain values of n, k, and p we improve upon the bound given in Kostochka's theorem. (Received September 19, 2016)