

1056-01-1042 **David Peifer*** (dpeifer@unca.edu), Mathematics Department, UNC Asheville, Asheville, NC
28804. *Max Dehn.*

Max Dehn began his mathematics career in the early 1900's solving the third of Hilbert's famous problems. He went on to hold several prominent positions in German Universities. He wrote foundational works in Topology and Infinite Group Theory. He spent the final years of his career at Black Mountain College, a small experimental liberal arts college with an emphasis on the arts. He lived through some of the most turbulent times in our recent history. This talk will give a brief history of Dehn's life, an overview of his mathematical works, and finally a brief explanation of his influence on current work by mathematicians such as W. Thurston and M. Gromov. (Received September 20, 2009)