September 21, 2012
9:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.
Bissinger Room
4th floor, Howe Center
Stevens Institute of Technology
Hoboken, NJ

September 22, 2012
9:00 a.m. - 5:45 p.m.
Room C002
Hunter North Building
Hunter College (CUNY)
New York, NY

Url: http://www.stevens.edu/algebraic/GTH/

Group Theory on the Hudson

Gilbert Baumslag
(City College, CUNY, NY)
"Localization, completions and metabelian groups"

Abstract:

In a recent paper by Kent Orr, Roman Mikhailov and myself, entitled "A new look at finitely generated metabelian groups", we outlined a number of ideas for exploring finitely generated metabelian groups. These ideas arise from several seemingly different sources - algebraic geometry, algebraic number theory, combinatorial group theory and commutative algebra. The glue that ties these sources together is a common property of finitely generated metabelian groups - they are all virtually residually nilpotent. In my talk today I will describe why and how and the tentative steps that we have taken to shed some light on the isomorphism problem for finitely generated metabalian groups, one of the most tantalizing open problems about finitely generated solvable groups.