

# Algebra/Topology Seminar

STEVE PLOTNICK

IN MEMORY OF RICHARD GOLDSTEIN

Thursday, April 10, 2025

3:00 p.m. in SS-256

ABSTRACT. Richard Goldstein (March 18, 1939 – April 1, 2025) was a professor in our department from 1970 until his retirement in 2018. Among his contributions to geometric topology and combinatorial group theory, the most influential ones were arguably in a series of articles published in the mid 1980's in *Inventiones Mathematicae* and in the *Bulletin of the London Mathematical Society* (authored jointly with Ted Turner, who also was a professor in our department). These articles resolve conjectures of Peter Scott and John Stallings, about finite generation of certain subgroups of free groups, using 3-dimensional manifold topology. This talk will be a friendly and mostly proof-free introduction to these ideas and results.