

Special Baylor ASA Seminar

Tuesday, March 22, 5-6 PM -
Rogers 109



Blasé Pascal: Brilliant Scientist and Remarkably Insightful Christian



**Speaker: Dr. Mark Horstemeyer, Chaired Professor of
Mechanical Engineering, Mississippi State University**

Dr. Horstemeyer is a professor in the Mechanical Engineering Department at Mississippi State University (MSU) holding a Chair position for the Center for Advanced Vehicular Systems in Computational Solid Mechanics. He is a fellow of two societies: the American Society of Mechanical Engineers and the American Society of Metals. He has published over 300 journal articles, conference papers, books, and technical reports. He has won several awards (R&D 100 Award, AFS Best Paper Award, Sandia Award for Excellence, SAE Teetor Award) and was a consultant for the Columbia Accident Investigation Board. He worked for Sandia National Labs for fifteen years before coming to MSU in 2002.

Abstract: Blasé Pascal was one of the most prolific scientist and inventor in history. He invented the barometer, did the first experiment proving the possibility of a vacuum, invented the first calculator, pioneered in statistics and arithmetical triangles, solved the motion of a cycloid and developed the first mass transportation system. Our unit of pressure is named in his honor as the “Pascal”.

Pascal was also a passionate and thoughtful follower of Jesus. In his famous *Pen sees*, he addressed many challenging questions about belief in God and Christian Faith, including such topics as free will, the reasonableness of belief in God, Christianity and Nature, man’s depraved state, eternity, the search for truth, the brevity of life (he died at age of 39), resurrection from the dead, whether Jesus is God incarnate, and the dangers of “betting” wrong on the question of whether God exist, famously known as Pascal’s Wager.

Come hear what Pascal has to say to us today!