

I understand some people in Tulane university proposed my name to be a speaker for the lecture series *Clifford Lectures*, and there was some dept discussion ensued about this, ending with Tulane math chair Morris Kalka sending the following message everyone in their dept list, including their grad students (of course this means that this message went to the whole world). So, it is not surprising that this message found its way to my mailbox by the way of some grad student. It goes like this *“You mused in your email yesterday about how members of his department thought of Akbulut. I happen to be very friendly with a few people in the Michigan State Department and asked this very question. This person is also an excellent topologist, so I asked about his scientific stature as well as his personality. I’ll leave out the lengthy response about his work, but here is the comment about his personality: “My reaction to his being a Clifford lecturer would be disgust! Aside from his lack of suitable mathematical credentials, he is the most odious person I have ever met. A conference centered around his needy ego would bring no joy to Tulane”*. Needless to say I did not get an invitation :)

Selman Akbulut