Topology Seminar

Ismar Volic

of Wellesley College will be speaking on

Some new applications of manifold calculus of functors

on December 12 at 4:30 in
MIT Room 2-131

Manifold calculus of functors has in recent years been applied with great success to various spaces of embeddings. In this talk, I will present some new applications and situations where this theory is proving useful. One application is to spaces of homotopy string links where manifold calculus provides a connection to certain spaces of diagrams and trees, as well as to classical objects like Milnor invariants. Another application is to spaces of immersions with a finite number of self-intersections where manifold calculus supplies a new understanding of some classical problems in combinatorial topology. A common theme (and difficulty) in these seemingly unrelated topics is a certain subspace arrangement, and some time will be devoted to the discussion of its structure.