962-A1-510 **Elaine A Terry*** (terry@sju.edu), 5600 City Avenue, Department of Mathematics, Philadelphia, PA 19131. *The Erdos-Ramsey Connection.*

Since the passing of Paul Erdos in 1996, much has been written about his brilliant contribution to various areas of discrete mathematics. Uncle Paul, as he was so affectionately called by those with whom he worked closely, proved to be one of the most prolific mathematicians of the 20th century. Of importance to this presentation is that Erdos along with George Szekeres is credited with being the first to put into mathematical use what today is known as Ramsey's theorem. By doing so the two helped give rise to the subdiscipline of combinatorics so named Ramsey theory. In this presentation the aim is to give a historical overview of Ramsey theory by first looking at its namesake, Frank Ramsey. Secondly, I will look at the pigeonhole principle in order to demonstrate Ramsey's theorem in its simplest form. Finally I will present Ramsey's theorem and statements that today are Ramsey-like. Some of Erdos's contributions to the field will be given throughout the presentation. (Received September 15, 2000)