1018-13-168 **Florian Enescu\*** (`fenescu@mathstat.gsu.edu`), Georgia State University, Department of Mathematics and Statistics, Atlanta, GA 30303. *Almost regular sequences.* Preliminary report.

The talk will discuss possible ways of defining the concept of almost regular sequences as part of almost ring theory. The purpose of the talk is to suggest tools of investigation of almost Cohen-Macaulay algebras and explain their relationship to the almost vanishing of local cohomology modules in light of the work by R. Heitmann on the direct summand conjecture and P. Roberts on the connections of this conjecture to almost ring theory. (Received March 05, 2006)