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*The moduli space of stable fat pointed curves of genus zero.* Preliminary report.

I will introduce a toric variety, the moduli space  $\overline{M}_{0,\{n_1,\dots,n_m\}}$ , whose points correspond to stable pointed rational curves where the markings have embedded scheme structure. When  $\sum_i n_i = n$ , this moduli space of fat pointed curves arises naturally as a Gröbner degeneration of  $\overline{M}_{0,n}$ , the moduli space of stable  $n$ -pointed rational curves. This is joint work with Diane Maclagan. (Received August 06, 2007)