

## Featured Faculty



LARA PUDWELL PICTURED RIGHT

Professor Lara Pudwell is a renowned research expert in combinatorics (the branch of mathematics concerned with counting, arranging, selecting, and organizing finite or discrete structures). However, she does not complete her research in isolation, but rather collaborates frequently with students and other faculty. She recently gave two panel presentations regarding the value of community in academics. At the Joint Mathematics Meetings in Washington, D.C. in January 2026, she served on a panel on "The Role of Community in Communicating Mathematics." Then in April 2026, she served on a Pathways to Purpose panel organized by Valpo's Institute for Leadership and Service titled "Card Games, Friendship, and how Life is More than Work."