**September 29 and October 6:** Dan Ciubotaru (MIT), "Iwahori-spherical unitary representations for $p$-adic groups."

The study of Iwahori-spherical representations of split reductive $p$-adic groups can be translated to the category of finite dimensional modules of the Iwahori-Hecke algebra. Barbasch and Moy showed that the determination of the unitary Iwahori-spherical representations of the group can also be formulated in terms of the Iwahori-Hecke algebra and its affine graded version. In this setting, they identified the spherical unitary dual for classical groups. Similar methods can be employed in the exceptional cases.

I will recall the main elements and steps in the classification. I will present the description of the spherical unitary dual of exceptional $p$-adic groups and attempt to explain the relevance of these results for the unitary dual of real groups. Finally, I plan to present some progress made in the calculation of the full Iwahori-spherical unitary dual. The talk is based on joint work with Dan Barbasch.