**DIANE MACLAGAN**, Rutgers University, Piscataway, NJ 08854, USA Equations and degenerations of  $\overline{M}_{0,n}$ 

The moduli space  $\overline{M}_{0,n}$  has as points all stable genus zero points with n marked points. I will introduce this object, and describe joint work with Angela Gibney (Penn) that gives explict equations for  $\overline{M}_{0,n}$  in the Cox ring of a related toric variety. An application of this is an explicit construction of a degeneration of  $\overline{M}_{0,n}$  to a toric variety.