Title: Quantum groups at roots of unity and invariants of links.

Abstract: Quantized universal enveloping algebras specialized at a primitive ℓ-th root of unity has a large central Hopf subalgebra generated by ℓ-th powers of Cartan subalgebra and of root elements. This talk will start with an overview of some basic facts about quantized sl_2 at roots of unity and its braiding properties. Then it will be used to construct invariants of links with the gauge class of generic $sl_2(C)$ flat connection in the complement. At the end the limit $\ell \to \infty$ will be discussed.