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**Eric Rains\*** ([rains@caltech.edu](mailto:rains@caltech.edu)), Department of Mathematics, 1200 E California Blvd., 176 Sloan, MC 253-37, Pasadena, CA 91125. *Beyond  $q$ : Special functions on elliptic curves.*

An important thread in modern representation theory (and combinatorics) is that many important objects have so-called  $q$ -analogues, generalizations depending on a parameter  $q$  which reduce to more familiar objects when  $q = 1$ . For instance, the Schur functions (irreducible characters of the unitary group) have  $q, t$ -analogues, namely the famous Macdonald polynomials, and similarly the Koornwinder polynomials are six-parameter  $q$ -analogues of the characters of other classical groups. It turns out that many  $q$ -analogues extend further to *elliptic* analogues, in which  $q$  is replaced by a point on an elliptic curve. The Macdonald/Koornwinder polynomials are no exception; I'll describe a relatively elementary approach to those polynomials and how to modify the approach to obtain an elliptic analogue. (Received September 22, 2011)