Robert Megginson is Arthur F. Thurnau Professor and Professor of Mathematics at the University of Michigan. Before receiving his Ph.D. in mathematics from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, he worked in industry for eight years, rising to the position of Lead Computer Systems Software Specialist for Roper Corporation, a Fortune 500 company. His first post-PhD appointments were as assistant and then associate professor of mathematics at Eastern Illinois University, leaving there in 1992 to join the mathematics faculty at U-M, with a twoyear leave in 2002-2004 to serve as Deputy Director of the Mathematical Sciences Research Institute in Berkeley. He was Associate Dean for Undergraduate and Graduate Education in U-M's College of Literature, Science, and the Arts from 2004-2010, and also served as Interim Director of the U-M Center for Global and Intercultural Study in 2009-2010. His research interests are the geometry of Banach spaces and the mathematics of climate science. He was the founding associate editor for STEM education of the AAAS open access journal Science Advances.

Megginson has been active in programs to address the under-representation of minorities in mathematics and has served as a member of the National Science Foundation's CEOSE diversity advisory committee, as well as other national and association diversity committees, many of which he has chaired. His recognitions for these efforts include the U.S. Presidential Award for Excellence in Science, Mathematics, and Engineering Mentoring in 1997, the Ely S. Parker Award of the American Indian Science and Engineering Society in 1999, the Etta Zuber Falconer Excellence in Mathematics Teaching Award of the Quality Education for Minorities Network in 2006, the Mathematical Association of America's Yueh-Gin Gung and Dr. Charles Y. Hu Distinguished Service to Mathematics Award (the Association's highest honor for service) in 2009, and the 2019 Distinguished Mentor Award of the Society for the Advancement of Chicanos/Hispanics and Native Americans in Science. He has been named to the Native American Science and Engineering Wall of Fame maintained at Southwestern Indian Polytechnic Institute in Albuquerque and portrayed in the book 100 Native Americans Who Shaped American History by Bonnie Juettner, Bluewood Books, 2002. He is a Fellow of both the American Association for the Advancement of Science and the American Mathematical Society.

Besides mathematics and diversity, one of Megginson's passions is mountaineering. He typically spends most of his summers in the high Colorado Rockies climbing everything he can get his boots onto, and has summited about 2/3 of the Fourteeners, the 53 mountains in the Rockies with summit elevations over 14,000 feet.