DAVID TEMME , UNIVERSITY OF UTAH

"HOW CAN THE BRAIN (A BIOLOGICAL ORGAN) BEST BE SCHOOLED BY SCHOOL?"



WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 5TH @ 4:00 PM ALINE SKAGGS BUILDING (ASB) 210

Analogous to how we use maps, our brain aids our navigation through life by constantly creating expectations that guide the moves we make (or don't make). It can be as simple as the expectation that tissue damage will stop if we move our hand away from a painful stimulus, or as complex as deciding who we trust (expect) to behave in certain ways. Furthermore, to keep up with both internal and external change, this mental map is in a constant state of flux. New expectations can be added, and existing ones can be modified or even lost. Brains go to the trouble and expense of learning because it aids them in doing their biological job. Which leads to an important question: Can viewing our brain as a map making biological organ add any insight to what we are trying to accomplish in education, and how might we best go about it? That is what I will attempt to explore.

David H. Temme is a professor (lecturer) in the Department of Biology at the University of Utah. Temme received a B.S in Wildlife Biology from Kansas State University in 1977 and an M.S. in Biology from the University of Utah in 1985. Temme first started teaching at the Utah State Prison and has since gained many accolades for his innovative teaching methods in the classroom from both students and the University of Utah. He won "Professor of the Year" in the Biology Department in 1999 and 2002. In 2004, he received the University of Utah Distinguished Teaching Award, which is the University's highest teaching honor.





David Temme