

KAVLI INSTITUTE FOR THEORETICAL PHYSICS

Presents

the Thirty Sixth KITP Public Lecture

sponsored by Friends of KITP

Sam Wang

Welcome to Your Brain:

Why You Lose Your Car Keys but Never Forget How to Drive and Other Puzzles of Everyday Life

People get many ideas about how their brains work from entertainment or folk wisdom, such as the idea that we use only 10 percent of our brains. But many of these statements are myths. Does playing Mozart to a baby really make her smarter? Does drinking alcoholic beverages really kill brain cells? I will address how neuroscience research has proved many of these ideas to be wrong. The facts are more illuminating about how our brains work - and often, more useful.

About the Speaker

SAM WANG, is an associate professor of molecular biology and neuroscience at Princeton University. He graduated with honors in physics from the California Institute of Technology and holds a doctorate in neuroscience from Stanford University School of Medicine. His career includes research at Duke University Medical Center and at Bell Labs Lucent Technologies, and science and education policy work for the Senate Committee on Labor and Human Resources. He is a W.M. Keck Foundation Distinguished Young Scholar and an Alfred P. Sloan Fellow. He has written over forty scientific articles on the brain, and is co-author of the book *Welcome to Your Brain*. His research interests are far-ranging and include cellular learning mechanisms, brain evolution, and the development of optical tools for probing the brain. His current research focuses on the cerebellum, a brain region that coordinates sensation, movement, and higher cognition.

Wednesday, April 16, 2008

8:00 PM (Reserved seats held until 7:50 PM)

Kavli Institute for Theoretical Physics, Main Seminar Room



Admission is Free
Seating is by RSVP only

Please email:

events@kitp.ucsb.edu

or call

(805) 893-4111

by April 11th, 2008.

**Reserved seats are held
until 7:50 pm**

*To make special arrangements to
accommodate a disability, call the
KITP at the number above.*

LOT 10 PARKING

From the roundabout at Hwy 217, turn right onto Mesa Rd, merge into left lane, turn left at the first light into Lot 10 parking structure. **PARK, BUY a \$3 permit** from the dispenser (near the elevator and stairs), **DISPLAY PERMIT** on dashboard. The KITP is right next door.

*The KITP gratefully acknowledges
its many friends in the community.*

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