

President's Message

Welcome back everyone and Happy New Year. It seems the years keep rolling around faster and faster each year. Anyway, the San Francisco January presentation by Steve Trytten was well attended by our Council. The presentation centered on planning for retirement plan assets and was very informative. We thank the San Francisco Council for their work on this.

Tim Smallsreed, our program chair, has again secured a speaker for a novel and interesting subject. Our next meeting on February 12th will feature a presentation by Professor Brian Wandell from Stanford University. Professor Wandell is Chair of the Psychology Department as well as a member of the Engineering department. He will discuss various topics centered on how the brain functions during the decision making process as well as his research into brain development and the challenges of longevity and learning disabilities.

Don't miss an opportunity to figure out how our brains are wired. We will also again be raffling off a bottle of very good wine and I look forward to seeing all of you.

Regards,
Walt Tchirkine

"Recent Developments: Inside Your Head"

Brian Wandell is the first Isaac and Madeline Stein Family Professor at Stanford University where he also is the Chair of the Psychology Department and a member of the Electrical Engineering Department. In general, he leads a group of post-doctoral fellows and graduate students studying development, structure and activity in the human brain.

Professor Wandell's research uses both functional MRI and behavior testing to understand the action of the visual portions of the brain. His measurements of the developmental changes during the acquisition of skilled reading are intended to understand how visual signals become rapidly identified and classified in the process of learning to read.

"Our research includes a wide array of topics. We have people who work on the question of understanding children's health and development, and the consequences of disabilities in, say, a grandchild who has trouble reading, or an elderly citizen who develops macular degeneration and loses their sight or memory."

Professor Wandell will try to engage our interest in the work done at Stanford. by providing "a broad overview of our department, the kinds of topics we cover, and how they might be important to people in the community." He will cover topics including the brain and economic decision making, as well as the challenges of longevity, and the neural factors in learning disabilities and depression.

The invitation of Professor Wandell to speak represents neither an exclusive endorsement of his institution nor an intentional tweak of those alums familiar with his competitor across the Bay.

Monday, February 12, 2007

Scott's Seafood Restaurant

Jack London Square
Oakland

6:00 PM Wine Reception

6:30 PM Dinner Meeting

Note: New prices!

\$35 paid in advance

\$40 at the door

Please make your check payable to "EBEPC" and mail to Bonni in the enclosed return envelope before Thursday, February 8th or call Bonni at 925.686.4819

Meeting Sponsored By:

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