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IMA Public Lectures

University of Minnesota

Thursday, April 22, 2010

Can chocolate save your life?

Nancy Reid, professor of statistics,
University of Toronto

This question appeared in a recent newspaper headline, but was based on a study involving only 14 people. How can we interpret the statistics behind headlines? What does statistically significant really mean? How do statistics get manipulated to further an agenda? The field of statistics is essential to understanding most current issues. It informs economics, health care, and environmental protection. The speaker calls statistics mathematical social work; it helps science progress, so it is important to understand its power.

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The IMA brings together the best minds in math and the sciences to solve pressing problems facing our society, our industries, and our planet. It receives major funding from the National Science Foundation and the University of Minnesota.

Lecture Details:

Refreshments: 6:30 p.m.

Lecture: 7:00 p.m.

Location: 125 Willey Hall, 225 19th Avenue South
West Bank, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis

Directions:

www1.umn.edu/twincities/maps/WilleyH/index.html

For updates on future public lectures:

www.ima.umn.edu/public-lecture

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