

The City College
of New York

The 2nd Annual Sharon Cosloy - Edward Blank
Family Distinguished Scientist Lecture

Thursday, September 15, 2016

Dr. Persi Diaconis '71

*MacArthur Fellow and
Professor of Mathematics and Statistics at
Stanford University*

presents his lecture

"The Search for Randomness"

Lecture: 4:00 PM

Location: Aaron Davis Hall

West 135th Street and Convent Ave.

Reception following the lecture

RSVP: www.ccnypresservations.com

Email: events@ccny.cuny.edu

Call: 212.650.7799



The Search for Randomness

"I offer a careful look at some of our most primitive images of random phenomena: flipping a coin, rolling dice, and shuffling cards. Practical experience shows that things are often not suitably random. A bit of physics and math show that randomness is possible. For example, I will describe my coin-tossing machine that tosses coins that always come up heads and some careful Math-Physics that show how real people's coins behave. I will also discuss the "seven shuffles" theorem for riffle shuffling. I will draw conclusions to the use of "models" in many other areas of our lives." — *Dr. Persi Diaconis*

About Dr. Persi Diaconis

Persi Diaconis is Professor of Mathematics and Statistics at Stanford University. Before graduating from City College in 1971, he spent ten years on the road as a professional magician. An early Macarthur winner and a member of the U.S. National Academy of Sciences, he is, perhaps, most well-known for proving that it takes seven ordinary riffle shuffles to mix up 52 cards.