

## **COLLOQUIUM SERIES**

### **The Psychology of Learning and Motivation**

**Date: October 1, 2010**

**Location: 3 M Centre, Room 3250**

**Time: 3:00 pm - 4:00 pm**

*(Please join us after the talk for light refreshments.)*



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#### **ABSTRACT:**

Cognitive psychologists have typically focused on processes that support learning and reasoning and have de-emphasized the motivational influences on behavior. In this talk, I give an overview of research that focuses on the influence of global incentives and local rewards and punishments on behavior. This work suggests that the fit between these global and local motivational influences can affect people's degree of exploration and flexibility in a variety of cognitive tasks such as classification and decision making. This framework may also help to explain phenomena such as stereotype threat and choking under pressure.

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