Idaho State University

Department of Mathematics & Statistics

**Undergraduate Colloquium**

**Does God Play Dice?**

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**Dr. Todd Fisher**

Professor

Brigham Young University - Provo

**April 20, 2018**

**4:00 pm**

**PS 308**

**Abstract:**   Throughout the history of civilization, we have struggled with understanding seemingly random events.  In the 17th century mathematicians began to develop tools to help quantify odds and probabilities.  We will give a brief history of how these concepts have developed, and see that patterns often arise in random events. The field of dynamical systems arose in the latter half of the 20th century to help discern these patterns.  We will look at some of the results from dynamical systems, and show how these have influenced our understanding in both mathematics and science.

This talk will be accessible to a general audience.

**For colloquium attendees, there will be light refreshments in PS 317 at 3:30PM.**