

Biography – David W. Tank

David W. Tank earned his B.S. in Physics and Mathematics at Case Western Reserve University in 1976 and a Ph.D. degree in Physics from Cornell University in 1983. Currently, he is the Henry L. Hillman professor at Princeton University and Co-Director of the Princeton Neuroscience Institute. He also directs the Bezos Center for Neural Circuit Dynamics. At the Simons Foundation, he is the Director of the Simons Collaboration on the Global Brain.

Honors and awards

- 1988 Fellow of the American Physical Society
- 1999 Bell Laboratories Fellow
- 2000 Member of American Academy of Arts and Sciences.
- 2001 Member of the National Academy of Sciences
- 2006 The W. Alden Spencer Award from Columbia University
- 2011 The Lawrence Katz Prize from Duke University
- 2012 The Lewis S. Rosenstiel Award in basic medical research
- 2015 Perl-UNC Neuroscience Prize

Research interests

His research interests include the measurement, analysis, and modeling of neural circuit dynamics. At Bell Laboratories, he contributed to the development of attractor network models of neural decision-making, the development of functional MRI imaging, and the development of cellular resolution optical imaging of neural dynamics. More recently, his work has focused on the mechanisms of persistent neural activity and the development and application of rodent virtual reality systems combined with large-scale optical recording and electrophysiology to study neural circuit dynamics during navigation.