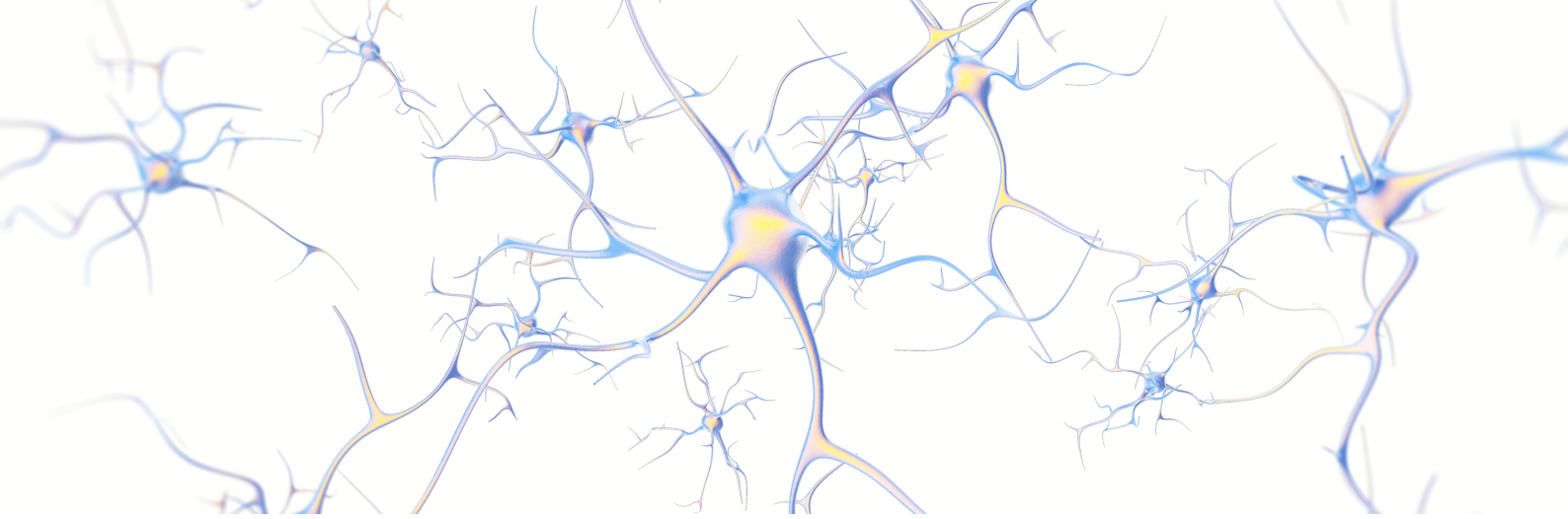




DAVID EDELMAN, PHD

MEDIA KIT

2020



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DAVID EDELMAN, PHD

Currently, David is a visiting scholar in the Department of Psychological and Brain Sciences at Dartmouth College. His research focuses on visual perception, cognition, and their neural bases in the octopus.

Before his research collaboration at Dartmouth, David was a visiting professor in the Department of Psychology at Brooklyn College (CUNY) and an instructor at the University of California, San Diego and the University of San Diego, David has also held positions as a professor of neuroscience at Bennington College (2012–2014), Associate Fellow in Experimental Neurobiology at The Neurosciences Institute (NSI) in San Diego (2008–2012), and assistant professor of neurobiology at The Scripps Research Institute (TSRI) (2011–2012).

David received his B.A. from Swarthmore College (1983) and Ph.D. in paleoanthropology from the University of Pennsylvania (1997). He completed his postdoctoral training at TSRI and The NSI in 2001 and 2006, respectively.

His research has been published in PLoS One, Journal of Biological Chemistry, Molecular and Cellular Neuroscience, Trends in Neurosciences, Consciousness and Cognition, and Physics of Life Reviews, among others.

To download his full CV, please [click here.](#)



CURRENT RESEARCH

David Edelman's interests range from the organization and function of complex nervous systems to the neural basis and evolution of conscious processing.

A neuroscientist known primarily for his work in establishing a theoretical framework for the study of consciousness in non-human species, Dr. David Edelman is currently exploring octopus visual perception and its neural basis using a video-based psychophysical approach.

His research focuses on visual perception, cognition, and their neural bases in the octopus. David's long-term goals are to pair video-based psychophysics with neurophysiological recording in free behaving animals, as well as characterize octopus visual pathways through molecular and histological techniques. This approach will: 1) reveal electrophysiological signatures of octopus visual perception and cognition that may be compared with data from vertebrates; 2) yield a comprehensive functional view of the octopus visual system; and 3) ultimately provide the basis for investigating the possibility of conscious states in the most complex of all invertebrates.

Currently, he is also writing a book about the evolution, function, and study of consciousness in non-human animals.

PUBLISHED WORK

David Edelman has published in the journals [PLoS ONE](#), [Experimental Neurology](#), [Molecular and Cellular Neuroscience](#), [Trends in Neurosciences](#), [Consciousness and Cognition](#), and [Frontiers in Psychology](#).

The excerpt below is from David's article "[Animal Consciousness: a synthetic approach](#)," published in *Trends in Neurosciences*.



Trends in Neurosciences

REVIEW | VOLUME 32, ISSUE 9, P476-484, SEPTEMBER 01, 2009

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Animal consciousness: a synthetic approach

David B. Edelman  • Anil K. Seth

Published: August 27, 2009 • DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.tins.2009.05.008>

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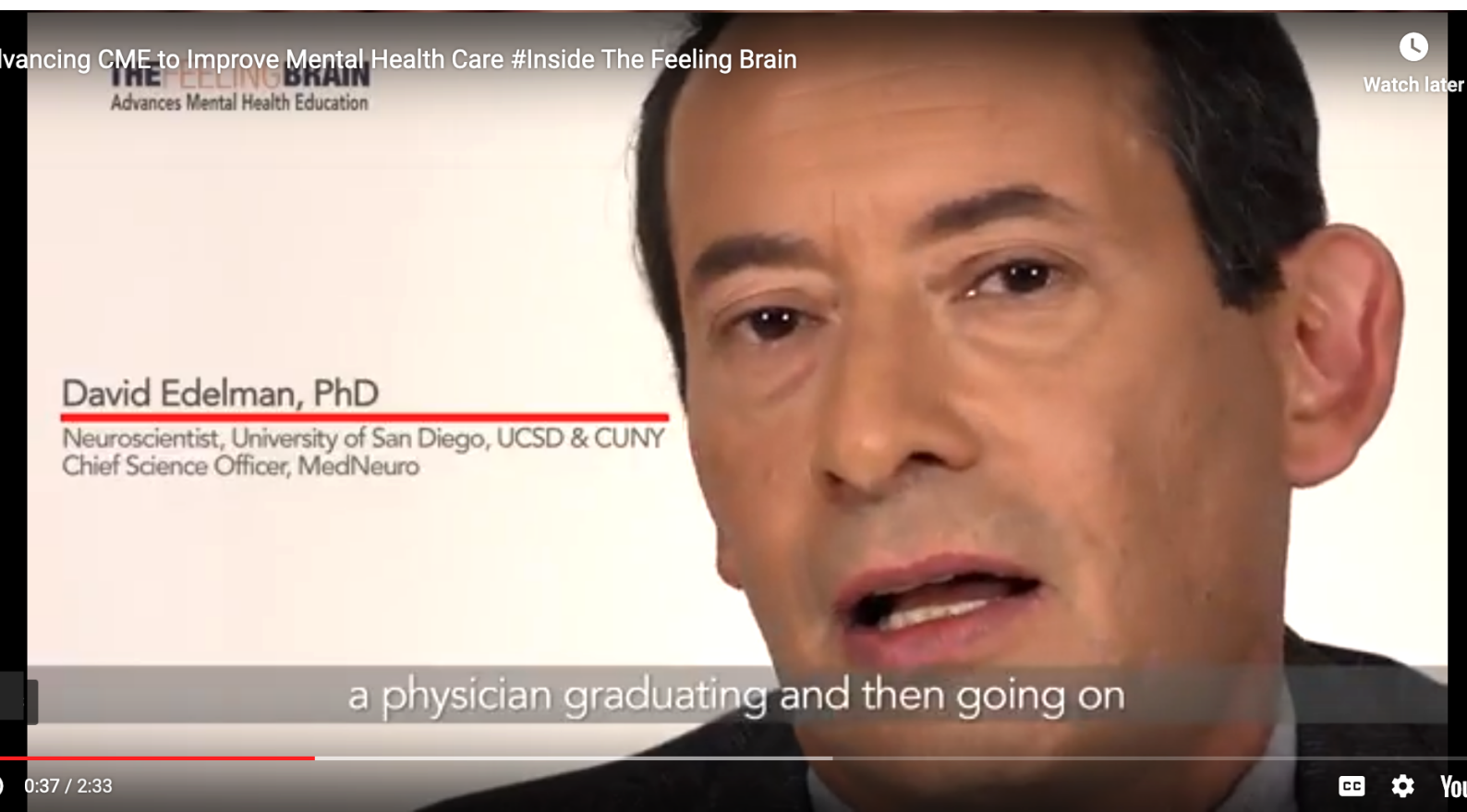
Despite anecdotal evidence suggesting conscious states in a variety of non-human animals, no systematic neuroscientific investigation of animal consciousness has yet been undertaken. We set forth a framework for such an investigation that incorporates integration of data from neuroanatomy, neurophysiology, and behavioral studies, uses evidence from humans as a benchmark, and recognizes the critical role of explicit verbal report of conscious experiences in human studies. We illustrate our framework with reference to two subphyla: one relatively near to mammals – birds – and one quite far – cephalopod molluscs. Consistent with the possibility of conscious states, both subphyla exhibit complex behavior and possess sophisticated nervous systems. Their further investigation may reveal common phyletic conditions and neural substrates underlying the emergence of animal consciousness.

NEUROBIOLOGY OF EMOTION

David Edelman is Chief Science Officer of MedNeuro, Inc., a neuroscience education enterprise producing breakthrough behavioral healthcare content.

Pioneering clinical content for medical professionals and their patients. The first Visual CME showing the direct relationship between brain circuitry and treatable medical conditions. Our focus is the emotional component of mental health – which is largely overlooked – and fills a huge gap in evidence-based science education.

Emotion is fundamental to every level of higher brain function. Anxiety, depression, bipolar disorder, and PTSD are no less physiological than chronic disease. Our learning materials will provide better tools to more effectively diagnose and treat our global health crisis.



WAYS TO WATCH

MEDNEURO/CME
breakthrough neuroscience education

WATCH IT ON
YouTube



MEDNEURO, INC.

Their pioneering strategy has been featured in BRAINWORLD Magazine.



RESOURCES FILM

'THE FEELING BRAIN'

NEW PBS SERIES EXPLORES HOW AND WHY OUR EMOTIONS CAN MALFUNCTION
BY GERRI MILLER

■ What makes us feel emotion? Why do those emotions sometimes go awry and lead to depression and other disorders? In the upcoming series "The Feeling Brain: Exploring the Neural Basis of Emotion," leading experts in neuroscience endeavor to explain these processes.

The eight-part series, slated to air on PBS in 2017, gives viewers "an intimate account of how neuroscience is leading the way in the quest to understand, treat, and eventually conquer the emotional disorders so familiar to all of us," promises neurobiologist David Edelman, the chief science officer on the project. "It is a relatively recent revelation that we can characterize not just the behavioral correlates of emotion, but also its underlying brain mechanisms and circuits. 'The Feeling Brain' broadly captures the exciting implications of this revelation. But it goes even further by highlighting research that is beginning to reveal how and why our emotional lives may turn against us and those we love."

Presented topics include the neural basis of chronic stress, how the brain changes in adolescence, the role of a structure in the brain called the nucleus accumbens in emotion, arousal,

memory, and learning, and "the impact of taste and smell on shaping our memories and our emotional responses to the sensory world," Edelman adds.

Every mental disorder has an organic basis. Natalie Geld, the author of "Sensual Intelligence" and executive producer of the series, points out that nearly 450 million people suffer with anxiety, depression, bipolar disorder, schizophrenia, post-traumatic stress disorder, and other mental illnesses — conditions that are no less physiological than chronic diseases like cancer or diabetes. "This staggering figure represents a global healthcare crisis of epidemic proportions, which spans race, culture, socioeconomic, gender, and generations alike," Geld says. "Our series highlights how discoveries in neuroscience can impact and improve the ability of clinicians to recognize mental illness in patients that might otherwise be overlooked."

Promisingly, these developments offer hope for better treatment of such disorders in the future. "New evidence indicates that there are better or more-effective ways to deal with emotional distress than just writing a prescription," says Bob Sweeney, DA, MS, Executive Director at Challenger Corporation, and a producer of the upcoming series. "As these findings become better known to practicing physicians, they will be better able to suggest life changes and behaviors that will address the everyday needs of their typical patients." **3**

"AS THESE FINDINGS BECOME BETTER KNOWN TO PRACTICING PHYSICIANS, THEY WILL BE BETTER ABLE TO SUGGEST LIFE CHANGES."

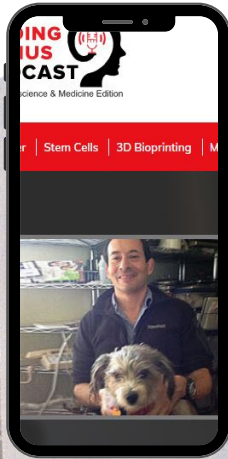
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MEDIA COVERAGE

David Edelman's theories and research have featured in major media outlets, including [HuffPost](#) and [New Scientist](#).

To submit a media request, please email our publicist: elle@thenautiluspress.com

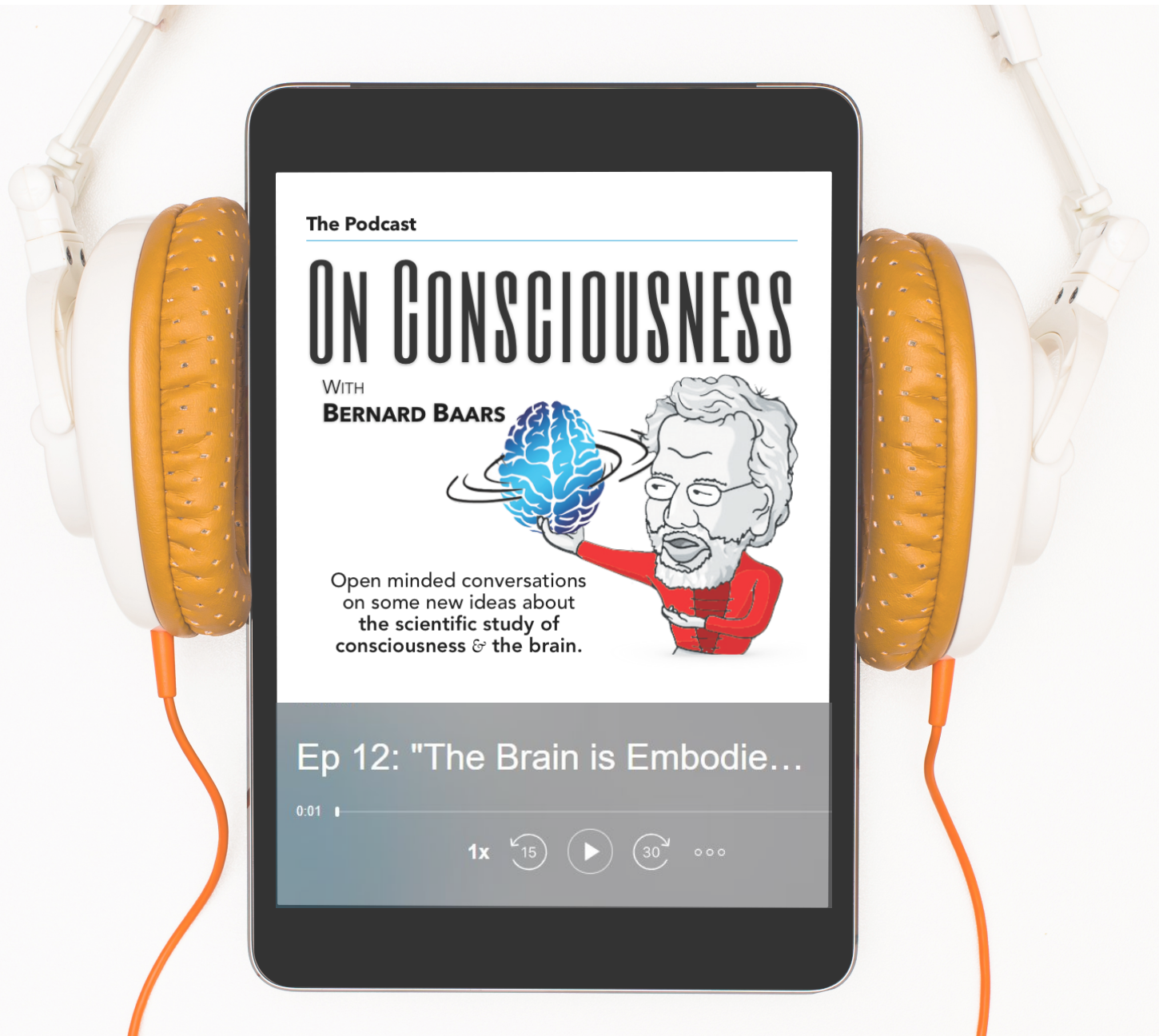


NewScientist **HUFFPOST**



PODCAST

Dr. Edelman co-hosts a bi-weekly podcast with Bernard Baars, a neuroscientist and one of the founders of the modern science of consciousness. Edelman & Baars are joined by the world's foremost leaders in science, business, the arts and humanities to discover the conscious brain and reveal exciting new findings.



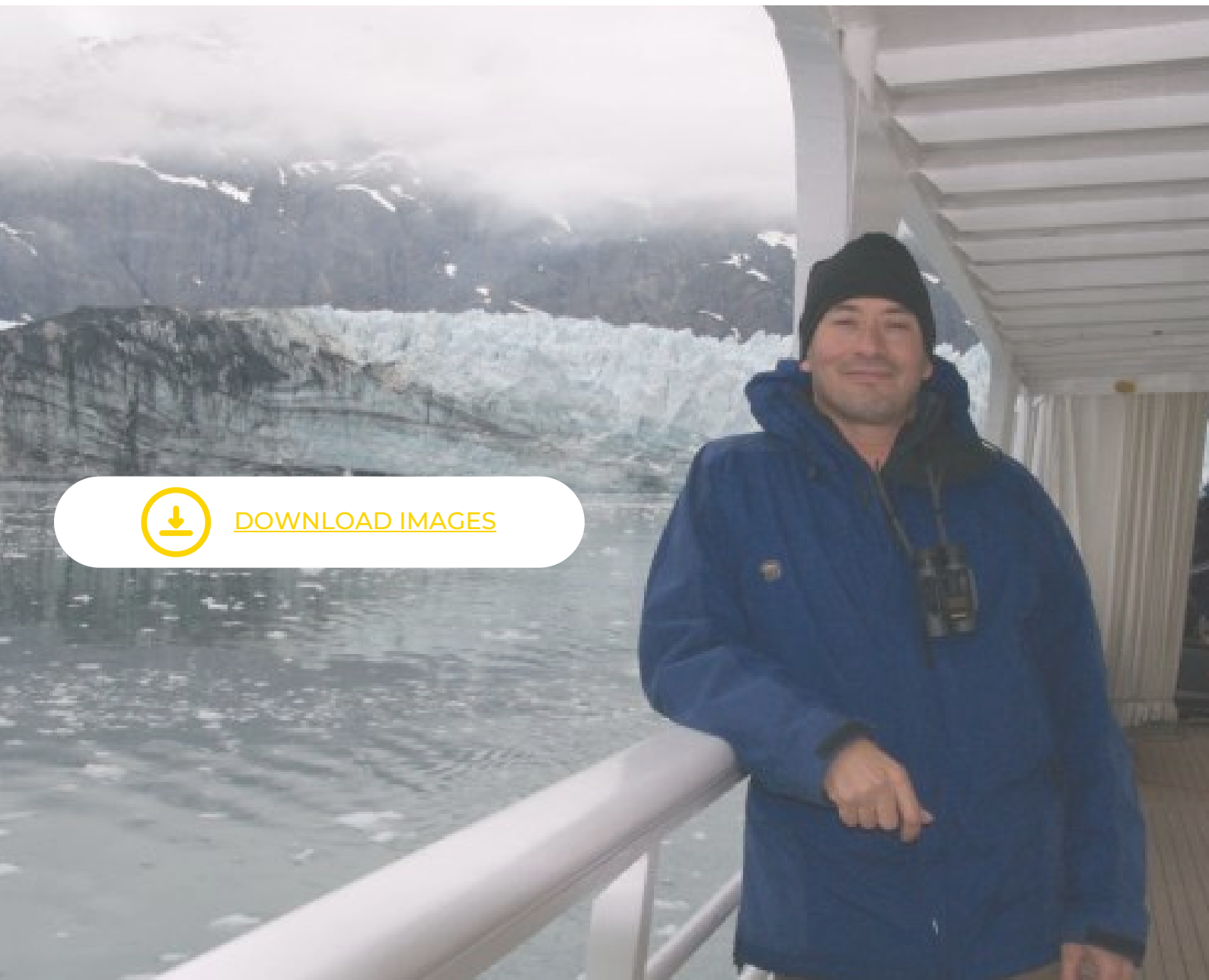
WAYS TO LISTEN



PRESS PHOTOS

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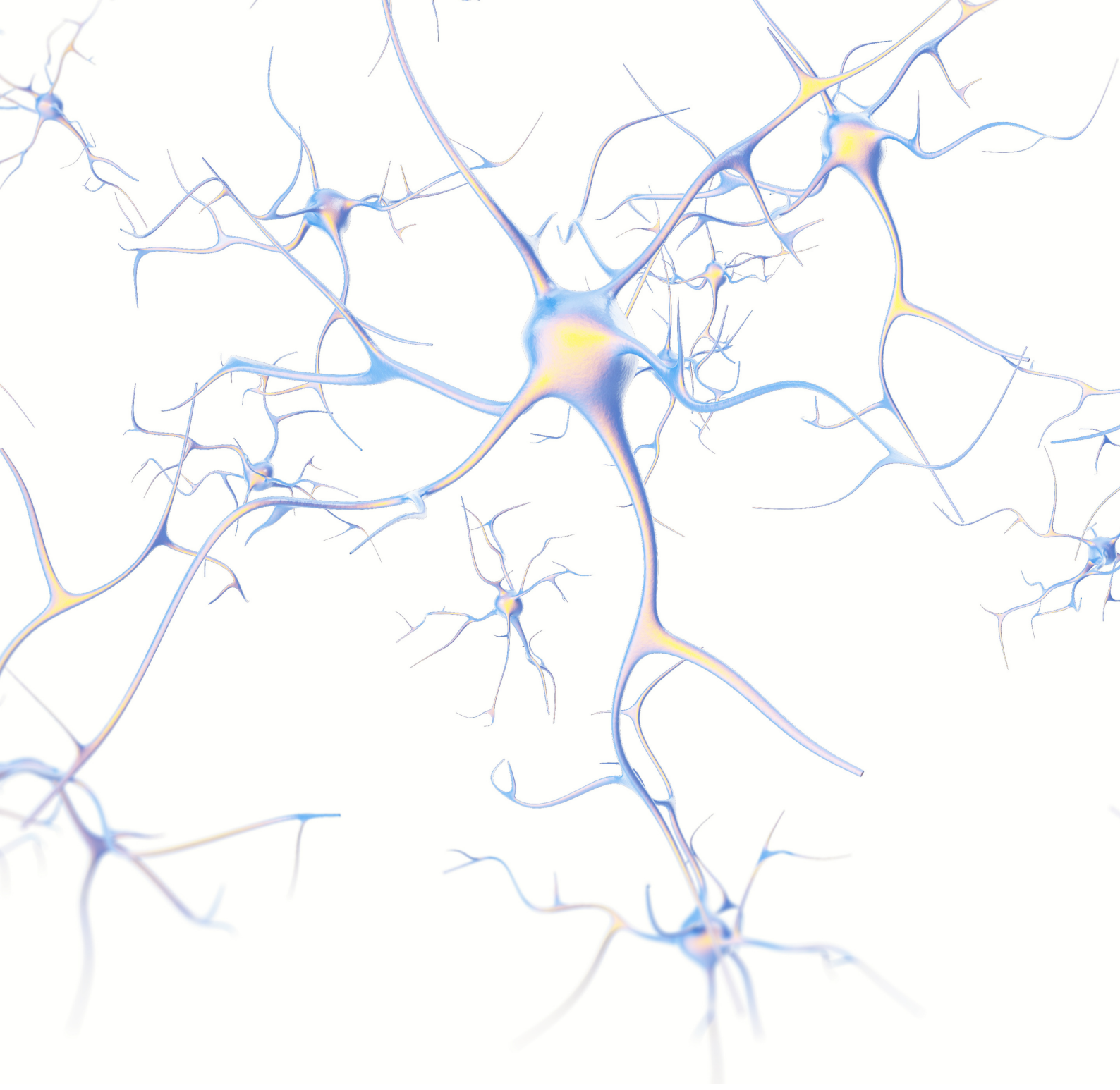


SAMPLE INTERVIEW TOPICS

- Assessing Consciousness in Humans and Non-Human Animals
- The Evolution of Consciousness: When Did it Appear and Why?
- The Functions of Consciousness
- Memory, Emotion, and Conscious Experience
- Consciousness in Animals Without Backbones
- Sensory Consciousness Versus Self Awareness: An Important Distinction

SAMPLE INTERVIEW QUESTIONS

- Is consciousness adaptive? Does it have a function?
- What is consciousness for?
- What is the relationship between consciousness and other cognitive faculties like memory and emotion?
- Is it possible to be aware without being self-aware?
- Why are cephalopods good candidates for the investigation of consciousness in non-human animals?
- Is it possible to determine if an animal has conscious experience in the absence of some kind of report?



All inquiries can be sent to MedNeuro's publicist:
elle@thenautiluspress.com