Vonda Jump

Vonda Jump, senior researcher at Utah State University’s Center for Persons with Disabilities, has been selected as one of 12 presenters at the TEDxUSU event on October 23 in the Caine Performance Hall.

Jump’s presentation, entitled “Unlocking the secrets of a baby’s brain through a parent’s heart,” details some of her recent research into brain development. Recent brain research is clear, according to Jump, who said, “Babies’ brains develop through their interactions with their primary caregivers, and the types of interactions they have impact their brains differentially. Babies depend on their primary caregivers for physiological self-regulation and brain organization in the early months. What babies need is a consistent, sensitive, and appropriately responsive caregiver for optimal development. In this regard, the baby’s brain mirrors the parent’s heart.”

The Office of Research and Graduate Studies brought TEDx to USU in 2012 with the hope that the conference would help underline the university as a thought-provoking venue where challenging thinkers share insight with the community. TEDxUSU is meant to push attendees and online viewers to think outside of their comfort zone by engaging them in new and different subjects.