

Re: The HP Way

Source: <http://sci.tech-archive.net/Archive/sci.electronics.design/2006-09/msg02189.html>

- *From:* John Woodgate <jmw@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx>
 - *Date:* Mon, 11 Sep 2006 17:08:48 +0100
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In message <u6vag21n6ndkh61ijhbqm5ieqqcm958lgt@xxxxxxx>, dated Mon, 11 Sep 2006, John Larkin <jjlarkin@xx> writes

How can you know, even using your definition of "mutation", that mutations are always random?

There is no evidence that they are anything other. Occam's Razor. But if the proteome is shown to be able to cause changes in the DNA of germ cells, thus providing a path for 'inheritance of acquired characteristics', so be it. That doesn't change anything much; it's certainly not radical.

It certainly doesn't make sense that they should be.

Things don't have to make sense, and what makes sense varies with the person sensing. For most people, quantum entanglement doesn't make sense, but for some, it does. It makes perfect sense that radiation, chemicals and copying errors can create random changes in DNA.

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There are benefits from being irrational – just ask the square root of 2.
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