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# Stanford Neuroethics Newsletter



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Center for Biomedical Ethics

Neuroethics Imaging  
Group

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## In The News

“Brave Neuro World: The Ethics of the New Brain Science.”

*The Nation*, December 22, 2005

<http://www.thenation.com/doc/20060109/schulz>

“What Makes a Terrorist? Science is Finding Out.”

*Newhouse News Service*, December 24, 2005

<http://www.newhousenews.com/archive/nutt122305.html>

“Dying Can Aid Stem Cell Research.”

*The Scotsman*, UK, December 27, 2005

<http://news.scotsman.com/uk.cfm?id=2462722005>

“3-D Scans Help Tackle Tough Aneurysms.”

*CNN.com*, January 3, 2006

<http://www.cnn.com/2006/HEALTH/conditions/01/03/3d.aneurysms.ap/index.html>

“Shall We Enhance?”

*Deseret Morning News*, January 7, 2006

<http://deseretnews.com/dn/print/1,1442,635174444,00.html>

## Books

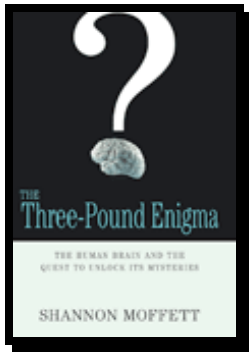
“Creating brain: The neuroscience of genius” by Andreasen, N. The Dana Press. 2005.

“Neuroethics: Defining the issues in theory, practice and policy” by Illes, J. (Ed.) Oxford University Press. 2006.

“The three pound enigma: The human brain and the brilliant minds exploring it” by Shannon Moffet. Algonquin Books of Chapel Hill. 2006.

“To heal a fractured world: The ethics of responsibility” by Sacks, J. Continuum International Publishing Group. 2006.

“A mind of its own: How your brain distorts and deceives” by Fine, C. Icon Books. 2006.



Can we know something without being aware that we know it?

How are we able to erase a traumatic event from our memory?

And, how, at only three pounds (80 percent of which is only water), does the human brain give rise to consciousness?

Shannon Moffett's new book, *The Three Pound Enigma*, explores these questions and more.



## Selected Journal Articles

Beckwith, J. & Huang, F. (2005) Should we make a fuss? A case for social responsibility in science. *Nature Biotechnology*. 23(12):1479-1480.

Bush, G., Valera, E.M., & Seidman, L.J. (2005) Functional imaging of attention-deficit/hyperactivity disorder: A review and suggested future directions. *Biological Psychiatry*. 57:1273-1284.

Wild, J. (2005) Brain imaging ready to detect terrorists, say neuroscientists. *Nature*. 437(7058):457.

## Updates

### From The European Molecular Biology Laboratory

*Submitted by Bettina Schaefer, EMBL Course & Conference Office*

We are please to announce the **7th EMBL/EMBO Science & Society interdisciplinary conference: "Genes, Brain/Mind and Behavior"** to be held **November 3-4, 2006**, in Heidelberg, Germany.

Research in the life sciences is revealing how genes are differentially expressed in the brain and how types of behavior reflect the functioning of different neural networks. Scientists are also exploring the relationship between the neurophysiology of the brain and the nature of consciousness.

Science and technology always work in tandem. Neurotechnology refers to the set of tools that have been developed to analyze and influence the human nervous system, especially the brain. We would like to assess the uses that are - or could in the future be - made of new neurological knowledge and technologies. What are the consequences when biochemical solutions to behavioral problems such as depression, addiction, or eating disorders take precedence over attempts to repair the social environment, or defective interpersonal relations? How do we avert the risk of psychopharmacology being abused for neurochemical enhancement?

While new knowledge coming out of the neurosciences has an enormous potential for beneficial applications in diverse fields, treating or manipulating the mind will also have important social, legal and bioethical implications. These are some of the main issues that will be the focus of the next interdisciplinary EMBL/EMBO Science and Society conference.

For more information about this conference, and a list of confirmed participants, please check: <http://www.embl.org/conference2006/scope06>. On-line registrations from **February 1, 2006**.

## Events of Interest

**January 19, 2006:** "Quality of Life, Ethics and Prognosis of Critically Ill Neurological Patients." Maarten Lansberg, MD/PhD. Stanford University, 12:00-1:00 PM, Clark S363. Contact Dr. Eric Racine, 2005/2006 Theme Group Coordinator at [eracine@stanford.edu](mailto:eracine@stanford.edu) for questions and further information. <http://med.stanford.edu/neuroethics/NeuroethicsThemeGroup.html>

## Events of Interest (continued)

**January 20, 2006:** *"Beyond the Embryo."* The Stanford Center for Biomedical Ethics Program on Stem Cells and Society First Annual Symposium. 1:00-6:00 PM. Lucile Packard Children's Hospital Auditorium. Stanford University.

🔗 **Flowers for Algernon and Other Ethical Challenges in Stem Cells and Neuroscience**

Judy Illes, Stanford Center for Biomedical Ethics

🔗 **Stem Cells and Chimeras: Issues real and chimerical**

Hank Greely, Stanford Law School

**February 3-5, 2006:** *"Mind and Moment: Mindfulness, Neuroscience, and the Poetry of Transformation in Everyday Life."* Speakers include Diane Ackerman, Jon Kabat-Zinn, John O'Donohue, and Daniel Siegel. Cathedral Hill Hotel, San Francisco. <http://www.zaadz.com/mindandmoment>

**February 16-20, 2006:** The American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) Annual Meeting. *"Grand Challenges, Grand Opportunities."* St. Louis, Missouri.

[http://www.aaas.org/meetings/Annual\\_Meeting/03\\_GI/Info.shtml](http://www.aaas.org/meetings/Annual_Meeting/03_GI/Info.shtml)

**February 18, 2006: The Ethics of Neuroscience**

🔗 **Is Anyone There? - Protecting Those Who Cannot Speak for Themselves**

Stephanie J. Bird, PhD

🔗 **Ethics of Predicting Brain Function and Disease Using Neuroimaging**

Judy Illes, PhD

🔗 **Detecting Consciousness: The Limits of Science and Technology**

Martha J. Farah, PhD

🔗 **Buddhist Perspectives on Brain Function and Personhood**

Francisca Cho, PhD

For further information contact SJ Bird at [sjbird@mit.edu](mailto:sjbird@mit.edu)

**March 13-14, 2006:** What's New Under The Skull: A Colloquium on the Philosophical and Ethical and Legal Issues Raised by Current Advances in Neuroscience. Lausanne, Switzerland.

**April 7-11, 2006:** American Educational Research Association (AERA) Annual Meeting. *"Education Research in the Public Interest."* San Francisco, California.

<http://www.aera.net/annualmeeting/?id=694>

**April 8-11, 2006:** Cognitive Neuroscience Annual Meeting. Hyatt Regency San Francisco. San Francisco, California.

<http://www.cogneurosociety.org/content/meeting>

"What we want is a kind of scanner that can take a 3-D image of the head... [that] can be correlated to a person's psychological state. Basically, it's a simple portable device to quickly see if a person is lying."

--Peter Rosenfeld, a principal member of the team developing terrorist detecting technology, in *What Makes a Terrorist? Science is Finding Out.*



Several neuroethics relevant events will take place in San Francisco this spring, including the AERA and CNS annual meetings.

The Stanford Neuroethics Newsletter seeks to disseminate the most up to date information relating to neuroethics worldwide. We welcome your announcements, relevant new papers, books, talks, awards and conferences.

The deadline for submitting materials for the February 2006 newsletter is **Friday, February 10, 2006.**

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