



PROGRAM IN NEUROETHICS

STANFORD CENTER *for* BIOMEDICAL ETHICS

November 2006 Newsletter

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Announcements



The Neuroethics Society is now accepting applications for membership. Please visit <http://www.neuroethicssociety.org/> for more information.



AJOB Neuroscience is now accepting manuscripts. To contribute or for more information please contact, Judy Illes, Editor – illes@stanford.edu or visit <http://editorial.bioethics.net>.



The **Journal of Cognitive Neuroscience** is expanding its coverage to include neuroethics. The journal invites submissions of the original work of an empirical or analytic nature addressing key issues in neuroethics. Please address inquiries to mfarah@psych.upenn.edu



Computational Intelligence and Neuroscience is calling for papers for a special issue on "Brain Computer Interfaces and Robotics: Toward Their Applications in Clinical and Neurorehabilitation Contexts." For information please visit:

<http://www.hindawi.com/GetPage.aspx?journal=CIN&page=BCI>

Updates

News from the Neuroethics Society

The **Neuroethics Society** held three socials in October at: 1) Society for Neuroscience 36th Annual Meeting, 2) American Society for Bioethics and Humanities 8th Annual Meeting and 3) the 7th European Molecular Biology Laboratory/EMBO joint conference in Heidelberg, Germany. More news of the activities of the Neuroethics Society is forthcoming in its first newsletter in January 2007.

The Stanford Neuroethics Newsletter seeks to disseminate the most up-to-date information relating to neuroethics worldwide. We welcome your announcements including relevant news papers, books, talks, awards and conferences. The deadline for submitting material for the next newsletter is

Monday, December 11, 2006. Please email vchin1@stanford.edu

Back copies of the newsletter can be found on our website: <http://neuroethics.stanford.edu>.

International Neuroethics Network (submitted by Rémi Quirion, Astrid Eberhart and Judy Illes)



The second annual meeting of the **International Roundtable on Neuroethics** took place on October 15, 2006 during the Society for Neuroscience conference in Atlanta, Georgia. The goal of this small roundtable discussion was to formalize an International Network on Neuroethics and to work toward the establishment of an international research agenda and funding for this important field. The following areas were identified as the high priorities for the network: capacity building (training); neurotechnology (stem cells, drug development, imaging); neuropharmacology; and, public education and professional education, especially in context of the developing world. Other priorities are: pediatric neuroethics (healthy/pathology); health care disparities, resources, research, values; spirituality, trans-cultural views, and belief systems; and, multicultural views and belief systems of brain, health and disease. The network is also exploring ways to align with the new Neuroethics Society. If you wish to be a country representative to the Network, please email Astrid Eberhart at AEberhart@cihr-irsc.gc.ca. An open forum meeting of the Network is planned for next year's SfN 2007 meeting in San Diego, CA

Events of Interest



Logo for "How Free are we? Genetics and Free Will" event.

November 8, 2006: "How Free Are We? Genetics and Free Will." Illinois Humanities Council. The Duncan YMCA Chernin Center for the Arts, 1001 W Roosevelt Rd, Chicago, Illinois 60608-1559. Registration required. Please visit website for more information:

http://www.prairie.org/index.cfm/fuseaction/dir_events.event_detail/object_id/97334cd5-1fa7-484e-a70a-f0e231486914/HowFreeAreWe.cfm

November 7, 14, 22, 28, 2006: Neuroethics Lectures given by Professor Kathinka Evers, Centre for Bioethics at Karolinska Institutet and Uppsala University. Collège de France. 11, place Marcelin-Berthelot, Paris 5°. à 17 heures, dans la salle 2.

December 10-17, 2006: FENS-IBRO Programme of European Neuroscience Schools: PENS Hertie Winter School; "Basic Basis of Social Interaction: From Concepts to Imaging"; Hotel Shloß Lebenberg, Lebenbergstraße 17, A-6370 Kitzbühel, Austria.

December 14-18, 2006: International Workshop and Symposium on Molecular Biology and Histopathology in Neuroscience and Stem Cell Research with special emphasis on human brain tissue. Department of Anatomy, Faculty of Medical Sciences, University of Sri Jayewardenepura, Sri Lanka. For more information, please contact Dr. Ranil De Silva via email: ranil@sjp.ac.lk

April 7-8, 2007: TELOS – Regulating Technologies Inaugural Conference to launch the Centre for Technology, Ethics, and Law in Society based in the School of Law at King's College London. Conference venue: Swissotel (Howard hotel), London.



Swissôtel (Howard Hotel), London: Venue for TELOS conference April 7-8, 2007

April 14-15, 2007: Unite for Sight's Fourth Annual International Health Conference will be held at Stanford University School of Medicine, California. The theme is "Innovation, Advancement, and Best Practices To Achieve Global Goals." For more information, visit:

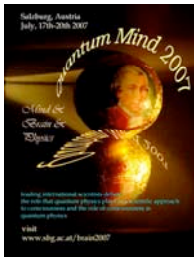
http://www.uniteforsight.org/2007_annual_conference.php

April 20-21, 2007: From the Brain to Human Culture: Intersections between the Humanities and Neuroscience. An interdisciplinary conference sponsored by the Comparative Humanities Programs at Bucknell University. Bucknell University. Lewisburg, PA, USA. Conference calls for papers. For more information, please contact Prof. John Hunter at jchunter@bucknell.edu

May 4, 2007: Neurocognition of Developmental Language Disorders: CBBC Workshop at Georgetown. For more information, please visit:

<http://cbbc.georgetown.edu/workshops/2007DLD.html>

July 17-20, 2007: Quantum Mind 2007. University of Salzburg, Austria. For more information, visit <http://www.sbg.ac.at/brain2007/>



Books and Special Volumes of Interest

"Smart Mice, Not-So-Smart People: An Interesting and Amusing Guide to Bioethics" by Caplan, A.L. Rowman & Littlefield Publishers, Inc. November 25, 2006.

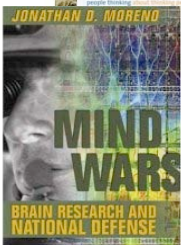
"Moral Minds" by Marc D. Hauser. Ecco (HarperCollins). New York, 2006.

"Social Neuroscience: People Thinking About Thinking People" by John T. Cacioppo, Penny S. Visser, and Cynthia L. Pickett, Eds. MIT Press, Cambridge MA, 2006.

"Shattered Nerves: How Science is Solving Modern Medicine's Most Perplexing Problem" by Chase, V. John Hopkins University Press. In press.

"Mind Wars: Brain Research and National Defense" by Moreno, J.D. Dana Press. November 17 2006.

"Neuroethics: Defining the Issues in Theory, Practice and Policy" by Illes, J. (Ed.) Oxford University Press, 2006. Review by Richard Ashcroft in the *Lancet Neurology*, March 2006: <http://neurology.thelancet.com>



Journal Articles of Interest

Caspi, A. and Moffitt, T.E. (2006) Gene-environment interactions in psychiatry: joining forces with neuroscience. *Nature Reviews*. 7(6): 583-590.

Fins, J.J. and Schiff, N.D. (2006). *Shades of Gray: New Insights into the Vegetative State*. The Hastings Center Report: In Brief. (In press)

Fins, J.J. (2006) Affirming the right to care, preserving the right to die: disorders of consciousness and neuroethics after Schiavo. *Palliat Support Care*. 4(2): 169-78.

"It is not true that the [vegetative] patient is either in an immutable state of permanent unconsciousness or has a heart-wrenchingly normal inner life. In fact, what we must confront is a scale of important gradations –most of which are yet to be discovered and described. [...] We do not know what the patient's level of consciousness is or if she carried out her mental tasks by intending and choosing to do so, as normal subjects would. Right now, the images of gray matter are but shades of gray. What we do know is that this is a provocative study in a single patient that must be interpreted with caution." –J.J. Fins and N.D. Schiff in "In Brief: Shades of Gray: *New Insights into the Vegetative State*

Ford, P.J., Henderson, J.M. (2006) The Clinical and Research Ethics of Neuromodulation. *Neuromodulation*. 9(4): 249-252.

Fuchs, T. (2006) Ethical issues in neuroscience. *Curr Opin Psychiatry*. 19(6): 600-7.

Fukushi, T., Sakura, O., Koizumi, H. (2006) Ethical considerations of neuroscience research: The perspectives on neuroethics in Japan. *Neurosci. Res.* (In press)

Glannon, W. (2006) Free will and moral responsibility in the age of neuroscience. *Medical Ethics*. 13(2): 1-2.

Hanes, J.D. and Rees, G. (2006) Neuroimaging: Decoding mental states from brain activity in humans. *Nature Reviews* 7(6): 523-524.

Illes, J. and Bird, S. (2006) Neuroethics: A modern context for ethics in neuroscience. *Trends in Neuroscience*. 2006, 29(9): 511-517.

Jackson, G.E. (Spring 2006) A curious consensus: "Brain scans prove disease?" *Ethical Hum Psychol Psychiatry*. 8(1): 55-60.

Misgeld, T. and Kerschensteiner, M. (2006) *In Vivo* imaging of the diseased nervous system. *Nature Reviews*. 7(6): 449-463.

Mueller, C., Rufer M., Moergeli H., Bridler R. (2006) Brain imaging in psychiatry - A study of 435 psychiatric in-patients at a university clinic. *Acta Psychiatr Scand*. 114(2): 91-100.

Naccache, L. (2006 Sept) Psychology: Is she conscious? *Science*. 313(5792): 1395-1396.

Racine, E., Bar-Ilan, O., and Illes, J. (2006) Brain imaging: A decade coverage in the print media. *Science Communication*. 28(1): 122-143.

Racine, E., Hayes, K. (2006) The need for a clinical ethics service and its goals in a community healthcare service centre: a survey. *J. Med. Ethics*. 32:564-566.

Racine, E. and Illes, J. (2006) Neuroethical responsibilities. *Can. J. Neurol. Sci*. 33: 269-277. (also in French)

Schmahl, C. and Bremner, J.D. (2006) Neuroimaging in borderline personality disorder. *J Psychiatr Res*. 40(5): 419-27.

Schmitz, D., Reinacher, P.C. (2006 Sept) Informed consent in neurosurgery—translating ethical theory into action. *J Med Ethics*. 32(9): 497-8.

“ Most of us get nervous when we imagine that some distant authority could have access to what we like to think of as private thoughts, or that some deliberate and fairly precise means can be used to alter our cognition or behavior in accord with someone else’s strategic purpose. [...] Some neuroscientists claim that fMRI can already show when subjects are thinking of a certain number, when they are lying, or what their sexual orientation is [...]. The hope is that the new techniques would not only be more reliable, but that they could replace torture and other physically aggressive means of interrogating terror suspects and enemy operatives.”
–Jonathan D. Moreno in “The Role of Brain Research in National Defense”



In the News

An audio interview of ***Cutting-Edge Brain Research: Alliance Members' Conversations*** with Judy Illes, Ph.D. on “Neuroethics” is available at the Dana.org website: <http://www.dana.org/broadcasts/audiostreaming/> The podcast may be found at: <http://www.dana.org/broadcasts/podcasts/>

“The Role of Brain Research in National Defense” – Jonathan D. Moreno in *The Chronicle Review. The Chronicle of Higher Education*. November 10, 2006. <http://chronicle.com/weekly/v53/i12/12b00601.htm>

“Just because we can do something, should we? Bioethicist Art Caplan weighs in on the latest controversies in his new book” –MSNBC news. November 10, 2006. <http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/15643279/>

“Life and death race: Politics and stem cell tissue - Disease advocacy lobby and ads by Michael J. Fox could change the election,” Commentary by Arthur Caplan on MSNBC.com, October 27, 2006. <http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/15420032>

“Doctors Say Electric Pulses Aided Brain-Damaged Man,” *New York Times*, October 16, 2006. <http://www.nytimes.com/2006/10/16/health/psychology/16brain.html?pagewanted=2& r=2>

“Priorities Needed for Nano-Risk Research and Development” *Science (Vol 314). Newsfocus*. October 6, 2006. <http://www.sciencemag.org/cgi/content/summary/314/5796/45>

Links of Interest

Stanford’s Program in Neuroethics: <http://neuroethics.stanford.edu>
Neuroethics for Kids: <http://faculty.washington.edu/chudler/neuroe.html>
Neuroethics Net: <http://neuroethics.ca>
UPenn Neuroethics: <http://www.neuroethics.upenn.edu/>
Neuroethics & Law Blog: <http://kolber.typepad.com/>
BrainEthics Blog: <http://brainethics.blogspot.com/>
Neuroethics.ca: <http://neuroethics.ca>

The Dana Foundation: <http://www.dana.org/>
The Greenwall Foundation: <http://www.greenwall.org/>
World Health Organization- Ethics & Health:
<http://www.who.int/ethics/events/date/2005/en/>
