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In The News
“Liar, liar, brain’s on fire.” MedPage, September 6, 2005

“Scientist explores morality’s roots in the brain.” Science & Theology, September 26, 2005
http://www.stnews.org/News-1630.htm

“Bioethics hits a crossroads.” USA Today, September 29, 2005

“A problem in the brain.” Newsweek, October 7, 2005
http://msnbc.msn.com/id/9630257/site/newsweek/

Selected Journal Articles


Announcements

From The Wellcome Trust
Submitted by Lynnette Reid PhD, Department of Bioethics, Dalhousie University
St Anne’s College Oxford was the site of the Wellcome Trust's Summer School in Neuroscience, Ethics, and Society held September 26-29. 22 graduate students and postdocs were inspired, challenged, mentored and tutored by 9 Wellcome Trust staff and another 20 top-level presenters from the U.K. and abroad. From Patricia Churchland presenting on materialist philosophy of mind, through many top clinical and basic science researchers, to MP Ian Gibson (chair of the House of Commons Science and Technology Select Committee) on making legislative impact. Distinctive British flavors included the very active presence of students and presenters from anthropology and social studies of science, and key players in the recent battles between the Home Office and the psychiatric and legal professions over the proposed new Mental Health Act. The Wellcome Trust knows how to encourage high-quality grant applications in areas it wants to fund: the same Summer School model kick-started genetics ELSI research in the U.K. and, judging by the enthusiasm of participants and hosts, it will do the same for "neuroethics."

Submitted by Richard Ashcroft, Head of the Medical Ethics Unit, Imperial College London
The Wellcome Trust Summer School on Biomedical Ethics brought together leading scientists, social scientists, philosophers, lawyers and clinicians with an interest in neuroethics in the UK and overseas to encourage multidisciplinary work and research collaboration. Students produced excellent proposals on the forensic use of neuroimaging, the views of patients with early dementia on proxy decision-making, consent to personality changing neurosurgery for Parkinson's, and the relationship between patient, career and clinical perspectives on Autistic Spectrum Disorder. The quality of the work impressed all the tutors, and the likelihood is that at least some of these proposals will be worked up into real-life grant applications. http://www.wellcome.ac.uk/doc_WTD003178.html

New Journals
Cambridge University Press announces BioSocieties, a new journal in the social sciences. It is dedicated to advancing analytic understanding of the social, ethical, legal, economic, public and policy aspects of current and emerging developments in the life sciences. These include genomics, neuroscience, psychopharmacology, biomedical and reproductive technologies, and bioterrorism. The journal appears quarterly, with occasional themed issues that highlight some of the critical questions and problematics of modern biotechnologies.

http://www.cambridge.org/uk/journals/journal_catalogue.asp?mnemonic=BIO

Philosophy, Ethics, and Humanities in Medicine will be an open access, peer-reviewed, online journal that will encompass all aspects of the philosophy of medicine and biology, including the ethical aspects of clinical practice and research. It will also consider papers at the intersection of medicine and humanities, including the history of medicine, that are relevant to contemporary philosophy of medicine and bioethics.


The Journal of Empirical Research on Human-Research Ethics (JERHRE) is a nonprofit, peer-reviewed international journal published quarterly online and in print, beginning March 2006. In addition to major research articles, JERHRE seeks to attract Brief Articles (under 950 words), and Research Agendas – comprehensive descriptions of ethics-related problems that call for empirical study. www.JERHRE.org

Other Announcements
Neuroethics Research Group at JST (Japan Science & Technology Agency) was established in 2004, which is the first, and only “Neuroethics” research group in Japan. JST is an independent, administrative institution established by the Japanese government for the purpose of promoting science and technology. JST operates the Research Institute of Science & Technology for Society (RISTEX) including the Center for Research on Brain-Science and Society. http://www.ristex.jp/english/english/top_e.html

"Many adults who for years have been called lazy, crazy or stupid," says Goodman, "are realizing the problem may be in their brain."

- from A problem in the brain

"I believe that spirituality and science are complementary but different investigative approaches with the same goal of seeking the truth."

-from The Universe in a Single Atom.
Events of Interest


Saturday, Nov. 12: The Dialogue Series with keynote speaker The Dalai Lama. 4:15-5:15 PM. Washington Convention Center Hall D.

Saturday, Nov. 12: “Ethics and scientific accuracy in press coverage of modern neurotechnology.” Dr. Eric Racine, Ph.D. Program Number: 18.27. 3:00-4:00 PM. Washington Convention Center Halls A-C. Board Number: WW83. (Program repeated Sunday, Nov. 13, 10:00-11:00 AM, 3:00-4:00 PM; Monday, Nov. 14, 10:00-11:00 AM, 3:00-4:00 PM; Tuesday, Nov. 15, 10:00-11:00 AM; Wednesday, Nov. 16, 10:00-11:00 AM, 3:00-4:00 PM.)

Monday, Nov. 14: “Thinking better? The ethics of cognitive enhancement.” Neuroethics Lecture by Thomas H. Murray. 10:00-11:00 AM. Washington Convention Center Hall D.

Tuesday, Nov. 15: “Stem cells in neuroscience research: advances and their ethical, legal and policy implications.” Social Issues Roundtable. 2:00-4:00 PM. Washington Convention Center Room 143A-C.

Wednesday, Nov. 16: “Visions and divisions: Initial recommendations for handling incidental findings in brain-imaging research.” Dr. Judy Illes, Ph.D. Program Number: 816.15. 11:30-11:45 AM. Washington Convention Center - Room 149A.


Books

