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# CLBB News

A newsletter from the Center for Law, Brain & Behavior

April 12, 2022

## CLBB Highlights



### [Innovative Perspectives on Research and Practice in Criminal Justice: The Intersection of Interprofessional Care and Transformative Justice](#)

CLBB, William James College and St. Louis University |  
February - May 2022

CLBB joins William James College and St. Louis University in co-sponsoring a 4-part professional development series from February – May 2022. The series is entitled *Innovative Perspectives on Research and Practice in Criminal Justice: The Intersection of Interprofessional Care and Transformative Justice*. This series involves persons with lived criminal justice experience and practitioners from multiple disciplines to review from a lifespan perspective the current criminal justice system, its populations and disparities, and reform initiatives.

In the series thus far, **CLBB Executive Director Dr. Robert Kinscherff** provided presentations on an “Overview of the Criminal Justice System” and “Child and Adolescent Brain Development.”

To register, please see this [link](#).



### [CLBB Executive Director Dr. Robert Kinscherff Provides Legislative Testimony to Abolish Life Without Possibility of Parole in Rhode Island](#)

**CLBB Executive Director Dr. Robert Kinscherff** provided legislative testimony at the request of The Sentencing Project on Rhode Island bill H7191. This bill would abolish the sentence of Life Without Possibility of Parole (LWOP) in Rhode Island. Dr. Kinscherff provided “science briefing” testimony on relevant research in neuroscience, social and behavioral development, and criminology regarding self-desistance from criminal misconduct with maturation, the inability to reliably determine at the time of sentencing a person’s capacities to be rehabilitated, and the disproportionate use of LWOP in sentencing persons of color.

*Highlight: “Taken together, the research indicates that sentences of Life Without Possibility of Parole do not achieve goals of deterrence, are not required for life-long incapacitation in a significant majority of cases, and undermines the goal of rehabilitation by asking persons without hope to effect major life-changes.”*



### [The Science Life: Katie Insel](#)

Columbia's Zuckerman Institute | April 06, 2022

What is a neuroscientist who studies adolescents teaching the legal system? Meet Katie Insel, PhD, a postdoctoral research scientist in the Shohamy Lab and co-author of the CLBB [White Paper on the Science of Late Adolescence: A Guide for Judges, Attorneys, and Policy Makers](#).

Learn more about the bridges she's building with the criminal justice community in this week's [#scilife](#), an illustrated series that explores the lived experiences of people working in brain research: the human moments of tragedy and triumph that define what it means to be a scientist and how science is done.

Check out Katie's story on [Instagram](#), [Twitter](#), [Facebook](#) and the [web](#).



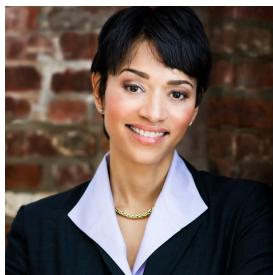
### [Ketanji Brown Jackson Defended the Poor — Experience that Can Balance the Supreme Court](#)

The Boston Globe | March 22, 2022

In this opinion piece, **CLBB Managing Director Judge Nancy Gertner** rebukes Republican criticism of Judge Ketanji Brown Jackson's work as a public defender. She points out that working as a public defender is fulfilling a constitutional mandate and that "defending the poor cannot disqualify a lawyer from becoming a justice".

*Highlight: "Every person accused of a crime confronts the government. Even rare wealthy defendants can be overwhelmed and outspent by the government they face. The public defender standing up in court, for shabby pay and against great odds, to speak for a poor man, woman, or teenager facing jail or prison should have the respect of every senator. That public defender especially should have the respect of each one who claims to be concerned about the size and power of government, governmental overreach, or individual rights."*

## Advisory Board Member News



### [Bay Ridge Lawyers Will Head to Atlantic City for CLE Seminar](#)

Brooklyn Daily Eagle | March 28, 2022

"The Franklin H. Williams Judicial Commission and its Second Judicial District Advisory Group will celebrate Women's History Month with a discussion titled, "Standing on the Shoulders of Judge Constance Baker Motley: The Historic Nomination of Judge Ketanji Brown Jackson to the U.S. Supreme Court." "The Panelists include **Jennifer Jones Austin**, an attorney with the Federation to Protect Welfare Agencies."



### [OTR: Massachusetts Congresswoman Katherine Clark Assesses Biden's Response to Ukraine Conflict](#)

WCVB | March 27, 2022

Assistant Speaker of the House **Katherine Clark** praises President Biden's response to the Ukraine conflict, saying "President Biden has brought NATO together."

*Highlight: "Our intelligence has been outstanding and we are responding in kind and in Congress, we are working with the President to make sure Russia was stripped of preferred trading status, to make sure we were cutting off Russian oil and to make sure we are doing everything we can to help with the humanitarian crisis."*



### [Understanding the Medical Field Through Storytelling](#)

Harvard This Week | February 20, 2022

Pediatrician and award-winning television writer **Neal Baer** EdM '79, AM '82, MD '95 was joined by Suzanne Koven ALM '08, primary care physician and the inaugural Writer-in-Residence at Massachusetts General Hospital, in a discussion about how the medium of storytelling can promote a better understanding of the medical field.

*Highlight: "This event will shine light on the gaps in current health education and successful examples of using storytelling as a delivery strategy."*



### [Madeleine Albright's Potent Legacy for Women](#)

Project Syndicate | March 25, 2022

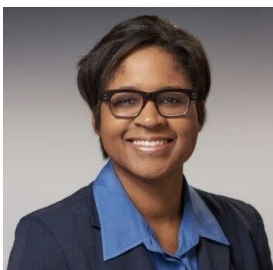
**Anne-Marie Slaughter** writes a tribute to Madeleine Albright, the American diplomat, political scientist, and first female Secretary of State, who died on March 23, 2022. Among other things, Slaughter highlights Albright's famous quote "there is a special place in hell for women who don't help other women."

*Highlight: "She wrote countless books and articles, delivered speeches, made investments, and served on several boards, all in the service of ensuring that ordinary people understood both the stakes and demands of the struggle for self-government and human rights."*

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## Faculty News

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### [Bill for New Behavioral Health Agency Seeks Sweeping Safety-net Reforms](#)

Rocky Mountain PBS | March 07, 2022

A new bill in Denver seeks to outline responsibilities for the Behavior Health Administration. This bill calls for reforms such as prohibiting publicly-funded mental health safety-net providers from refusing to treat clients based on their insurance status, level of aggression, involvement in the criminal justice system or the complexities of their cases. It additionally seeks to set statewide standards for quality of care. Behavioral Health Commissioner **CLBB Faculty Member Morgan Medlock** voiced her commitment to "completely transforming" the behavioral health system in Colorado.

*Highlight: "The people of Colorado have spoken. And they are demanding change. Today is the beginning of us delivering on that promise."*



### [Uncovering the Effects of Trauma on the Brain](#)

University of Utah | April 06, 2022

**CLBB Faculty Member Kerry Ressler** spoke at the Department of Psychiatry Grand Rounds at the University of Utah Huntsman Mental Health Institute on April 6, 2022.

Click [here](#) to watch Dr. Ressler's talk, entitled "*The Neurobiology and Scope of Trauma and PTSD: From Mice to (Wo)Man.*"

### [Altaf Saadi Promoted to Assistant Professor of Neurology at Massachusetts General Hospital](#)

**CLBB Faculty Member Dr. Altaf Saadi's** research focuses on neurologic health disparities and social and structural determinants of health among racial/ethnic minorities, immigrants, and refugees. As a clinician and as the principal investigator of the



Neurodisparities and Health Justice Lab, she is committed to action-oriented, community-engaged and policy-relevant research that will improve the health outcomes for marginalized populations.



### [Why We Can't Agree on Will Smith's Slap](#)

USA Today | March 28, 2022

"As reactions to the Will Smith Oscars' slap snowballed Monday, it became clear the most revealing story wasn't about what occurred between Smith and presenter Chris Rock, but about what our intensely divergent reactions to that violence said about ourselves."

**CLBB Faculty Member Dr. Alisha Moreland-Capua**, director of McLean Hospital's Institute for Trauma-Informed Systems Change in Massachusetts commented on how people's own definition of morality influences how they viewed Smith's violent outburst.

*Highlight: "Your personal experience and where you are, even in the evolution of your understanding of how you resolve your own internal and external conflicts, affects how you view what happened..."*

## Future Events

### [Neuroscience and Cannabis: Implications for Law and Policy](#)

April 20, 2022, 12:00 PM ET

CLBB and the Petrie-Flom Center at Harvard Law School

The legalization of cannabis has raised significant questions for law and public policy. In this public event, neuroscientist **Dr. Yasmin Hurd** will explore the science of cannabis, CBD, and the future of substance use disorder treatment. **Dr. Stephanie Tabashneck** will then moderate a discussion and audience Q&A about the implications for law and policy.



Join the conversation or submit questions on Twitter [@PetrieFlom](#) using [#LawAndNeuro](#).

In light of the COVID-19 pandemic, this panel discussion will be held virtually as an online webinar. To ensure that you will receive access to the livestream and be kept up to date on any changes to the event, [register now](#). We will send out a link to the livestream of the event to all registrants the day before and day of the event. **Last registration is 11:30am on the day of the event.**

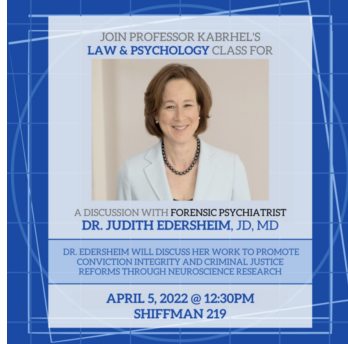
*This event is part of the Project on Law and Applied Neuroscience, a collaboration between the Center for Law, Brain and Behavior at Massachusetts General Hospital and the Petrie-Flom Center for Health Law Policy, Biotechnology, and Bioethics at Harvard Law School.*

## Past Events

### [CLBB Co-Director and Founder Dr. Judith Edersheim Presents at Brandies University Class on Law and Psychology](#)

Brandies University | April 05, 2022

Dr. Edersheim discussed her work in promoting conviction integrity and criminal justice reforms through neuroscience research at Professor Kabrheil's Class on Law and Psychology at Brandies University.



## Opportunities



### [Call for Neuroethics Posters and Talks](#)

The International Neuroethics Society (INS) invites researchers and clinicians to submit abstracts for presentation at the [2022 INS Annual Meeting](#) on November 2-4. This hybrid event will include opportunities to participate online as well as in-person at the Institut de recherches cliniques de Montréal (IRCM) in Montreal, Canada.

Abstracts are **250-350 words in English** describing the research or scholarship related to the field of neuroethics. Accepted abstracts will help shape the conference program, and outstanding contributions will be considered for an edited volume planned to emerge from this year's meeting.

**The submission deadline is May 31, 2022 at 11:30pm EDT.**

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### [Opening at the Dana Foundation: Director, Dana Frontiers Program](#)



The Director of the Dana Frontiers Program reports to the Vice President of Neuroscience within Society of the Dana Foundation and is responsible for overseeing the Dana Frontiers strategy and programs of the Foundation. The Dana Frontiers program aims to strengthen neuroscience's positive role in the world by growing capacity for informed public reflection on emerging neuroscience and neurotechnology.

Specific objectives include facilitating greater understanding and informed decision-making among judicial professionals, healthcare professionals, science communicators, and regulators, by providing education, resources, and convening meetings on emerging neuroscience topics that relate to their practice; developing models for multidirectional public engagement on emerging neuroscience issues to lay groundwork for mutual understanding and trust between scientists and publics; and strengthening informed policy creation that considers societal needs and values by convening and engaging leaders and influential figures in horizon-scanning on emerging neuroscience within society issues.

Click [here](#) for information on key responsibilities and qualifications!

Please submit a cover letter describing your qualifications, a brief bio (200-word limit), and your curriculum vitae to Pat Mangini, Director of Human Resources: [pmangini@dana.org](mailto:pmangini@dana.org)

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## In the News

### *General*

#### [MCI Cedar Junction to Close, a Milestone Reflecting Falling Crime Rates, Sentencing Reform](#)

The Boston Globe | April 07, 2022

#### [Brain-Computer Startup to Treat Depression Noninvasively](#)

Law.com | March 30, 2022

[The Neuroscience Of Connection: How Social Constructs Boost Engagement](#)

Forbes | March 31, 2022

## *Juvenile Justice*

[Juvenile Justice Reform Bills Seeking to 'Treat Children as Children' Could Mean Big Changes for Maryland's Youth](#)

The Baltimore Sun | March 31, 2022

['It Has To Be An All-Hands Approach': Minnesota Legislature Creates New State Office Of Juvenile Justice](#)

CBS Minnesota | March 31, 2022

['No Light. No Nothing.' Inside Louisiana's Harshest Juvenile Lockup](#)

NBC News | March 10, 2022

## *Elder Justice*

[Alabama Creates Nation's First Elder Abuse Registry](#)

WSFA 12 News | March 24, 2022

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