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CLBB News

A newsletter from the Center for Law, Brain & Behavior

November 17, 2021

CLBB Highlights

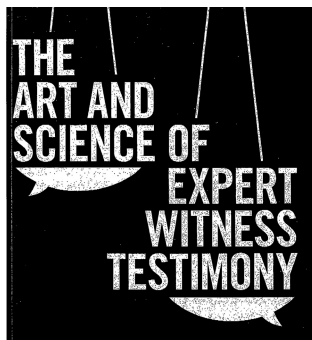


[Supporting Responsive Federal Drug Sentencing Through Education in the Workshop on Science-Informed Decision Making](#)

Federal Sentencing Reporter | October 2021

CLBB Managing Director Judge Nancy Gertner, CLBB Founder and Co-Director Dr. Judith Edersheim, CLBB Executive Director Dr. Robert Kinscherff, and Cassandra Snyder of the Federal Judicial Center discuss current issues with federal drug sentencing and the ways in which CLBB's *Workshop on Science-Informed Decision Making* can help courts pass individualized sentences.

Highlight: "Participants are encouraged to contemplate how a medical model of substance use disorder might alter their views of defendants in everyday criminal cases and to consider how they might marshal this scientific understanding in ways that might minimize recidivism and increase chances of rehabilitation and recovery."



[The Art and Science of Expert Witness Testimony](#)

October 27, 2021

In the multidisciplinary guide for professionals, *The Art and Science of Expert Witness Testimony*, **CLBB Co-Director Bruce Price** discusses CLBB's partnership with the Federal Judicial Center. The primary purpose of this collaboration is to educate teams of federal and magistrate judges, pretrial service officers, and probation officers regarding the neuroscience behind substance abuse, mental illness, brain injury, and trauma.

Highlight: "Price shares the comment of Judge Esther Salas, United States District Court for the District of New Jersey, 'Because of the program... I learned about neuroscience, learned about what it takes to understand trauma. We have to try to understand the individual we are dealing with, and we have to try to come up with an individual approach, not only on sentencing but also on supervising, pre-trial and post.'"

[Shutting Down the School to Prison Pipeline](#)

ABA Human Rights | October 11, 2021

CLBB Faculty Judge Jay Blitzman discusses school disciplinary



measures of police in public schools as major influencing factors in the school-to-prison pipeline, especially for students of color.

Highlight: "Bryan Stevenson has stated that each of us is more than the worst things we have done. This is especially so for children and adolescents. Adopting policies that support children in their schools and communities will reduce system racial-ethnic disparities, support positive youth development, and improve public safety."

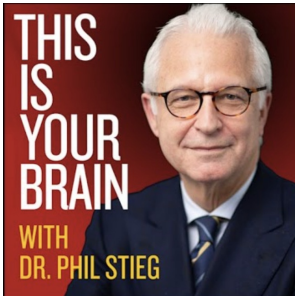


[Do Supreme Court Justices Have Competing Judicial Philosophies or Are They Just Partisan Hacks?](#)

Boston Globe | October 4, 2021

CLBB Managing Director Judge Nancy Gertner comments on the parallels between judicial philosophies and partisan beliefs on the Supreme Court, and how the philosophies of new Justices have proven to disregard precedent.

Highlight: "Respect for precedent means that the law will not flip-flop from one administration to another. While elections have consequences, those consequences should not be so dramatic for courts."



[S2 Episode 18: Your Brain on Trial](#)

This is Your Brain | October 19, 2021

CLBB Faculty Dr. Francis Shen was interviewed by Dr. Phil Stieg about the role of neuroscience in legal proceedings.

Highlight: Dr. Shen: "...Better decisions aligned with science can produce better outcomes aligned with justice. And what that means in practice is sorting through the myriad of new and exciting and even if still incomplete findings and tools from neuroscience and finding ways that some of them, not all of them, but some of them might be useful for improving the things that we do in law, which are very different than what happens in medicine."

Faculty News



[MJFF Details Need for Diversity in Parkinson's Research, Care](#)

Parkinson's News Today | October 13, 2021

The findings of **CLBB Faculty Jonathan Jackson's** study "Fostering inclusivity in Research Engagement for Underrepresented Populations in Parkinson's Disease" are discussed in this article from Parkinson's News Today.

Highlight: "The findings suggest that underrepresented populations are not asked or consistently engaged regarding PD research participation. MJFF will initiate a program later this year to train research staff at movement disorders clinics on inclusive research practices. The training will include engagement, recruitment, and strategies to retain participants, and to engage minority groups with staff and community organizations that are more representative."



[NIH Award Advances the Study of Young and Developing Brains](#)

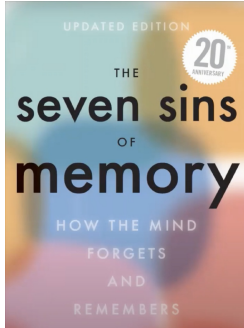
UC San Diego Health | October 14, 2021

The National Institute of Health has awarded funding to **CLBB Faculty Member Charles A. Nelson** and Dr. Christina Chambers' HEALthy Brain and Child Development Study. This groundbreaking project will focus on "pregnancy and early childhood and how various exposures, such as prenatal substance exposure, trauma, environmental pollutants, as well as positive environments affect

the long-term health of children." The study will follow normal and atypical brain developmental trajectories of individuals for 10 years in a sample of around 8,000 families.

Highlight: "Specific goals [of this project] include optimizing brain imaging technologies and protocols, identifying key brain developmental windows and learning how to better predict and prevent future mental disorders and behavioral problems associated with environmental exposures."

Past Events



[The Seven Sins of Memory Book Talk](#)

Center for Law, Brain and Behavior | October 13, 2021
See the recording of the event [here](#).

On October 13th, the Center for Law, Brain and Behavior hosted a discussion on the updated edition of *The Seven Sins of Memory: How the Mind Forgets and Remembers* with author and William R. Kenan, Jr. Professor of Psychology and CLBB faculty, Daniel Schacter.

This updated edition revisits Professor Schacter's groundbreaking research with the twenty-first century's cultural trends and scientific discoveries. This event featured a book talk and a moderated Q&A.

In the News

General

[New Research Uncovers Details Behind Depression, PTSD, and the Body's Response to Stress](#)
Sci Tech Daily | July 12, 2021

[New Neuroscience Research Sheds Light on the Relationship Between Anger and Brain Structure](#)
Psy Post | October 14, 2021

Juvenile Justice

[Complaints Against Texas' Juvenile Prisons Include Violence and Sexual Abuse](#)
New York Times | October 15, 2021

[Suspended Students More Likely to Get Caught up in Juvenile Justice System, and ViceVersa](#)
Rice University | October 27, 2021

[Medical Treatments for Substance Use Disorders are Slated for all New York Jails and Prisons](#)
Juvenile Justice Information Exchange | October 21, 2021

[How Second Chances and Support at This Dallas Cafe Can Discourage Juvenile Recidivism](#)
Public Broadcasting Service | October, 19 2021

Elder Justice

[Department of Justice Issues Annual Report to Congress on its Work to Combat Elder Fraud and Abuse](#)
Department of Justice | October 19, 2021

[Optimal Blood Pressure Helps Our Brains Age Slower - Lower Risk of Heart Disease, Stroke and Dementia](#)
Sci Tech Daily | November 7, 2021

[Department of Corrections to Launch Innovative Neuro-Cognitive CARE Unit at SCI Rockview](#)
Pennsylvania Press Room | July 8, 2021

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