



CLBB News

A newsletter from the Center for Law, Brain & Behavior

March 3, 2021

Save the Date!

Center for Law, Brain and Behavior

Spring 2021 Events

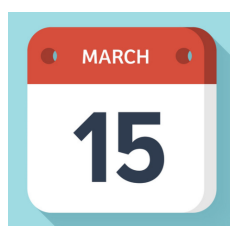
March Events



[Trauma and Truth: A Law and Neuroscience Perspective on Episodic Memory, Credibility and Asylum Law](#)

March 5, 2021, 3:00pm-4:30pm ET | University of Minnesota
Click [here](#) to register.

The success of an asylum claim relies, to a large degree, on the perceived credibility of an asylum seeker's memory. Often the credibility assessments of judges and asylum officers turn on the consistency (or lack thereof) in an asylum seeker's story. Asylum applicants will often recount their stories at multiple points in the legal journey, including immediately upon entry into the U.S.; in a subsequent written affidavit; and before an asylum officer or immigration judge. If inconsistencies or inaccuracies emerge, the asylum adjudicator often infers that the asylum seeker intends to deliberately mislead him or her. In this presentation, **CLBB Executive Director Dr. Francis Shen** will discuss a foundational, yet failed assumption, animating U.S. asylum law's approach to credibility---that honest human memory is free of inconsistencies, and that those with histories of trauma are capable of error free autobiographical recall. Dr. Shen will discuss how memory science counsels a more nuanced approach to credibility, and how changes in asylum seekers' narratives over time may not be due to deliberate deception but rather to the nature of human memory itself. This event is sponsored by UMN's Spanish and Portuguese Studies, CLA Office of the Dean, Human Rights Program, and Institute for Advanced Study. Click [here](#) to learn more about CLBB's work on trauma, neuroscience, and asylum law.



[Teaching Law and Neuroscience: A Book Launch for the 2nd Edition of the Law and Neuroscience Casebook](#)

March 15, 2021, 12:00pm-1:00pm ET | Center for Law, Brain and Behavior

Registration is free, but required at this [link](#), and for more information see the [event web page](#).

In 2014 the first Law and Neuroscience casebook was co-authored by Owen Jones, Jeffrey Schall, and CLBB Executive Director Francis Shen. Publication of the casebook and momentum in the field of neurolaw have contributed to the emergence of law and neuroscience

courses in schools across the country. This year marks the publication of the second edition of the Law and Neuroscience casebook. Reflecting the speed at which the field is developing, 45% of cases and publications in the second edition were published since the first edition in 2014. The new edition includes over 600 new references and citations to recent developments, with 260 new readings, including 27 new case selections. This event will serve a book launch for the new edition, and will feature a dialogue between the co-authors of the casebook and two professors who are currently teaching from the new materials: **CLBB Managing Director Judge (Ret.) Nancy Gertner**, who introduced the first Law & Neuroscience course at Harvard Law School, and neuroscientist **Dr. Sally Bernardina Seraphin**, who created the first Law and Neuroscience course at Trinity College in Hartford, CT. All are welcome to learn more about the field of neurolaw, and **everyone in attendance will have a chance to win a free copy of the book.**



[Three Identical Strangers: Virtual Panel Discussion](#)

March 29, 2021 5:00pm-6:00pm ET | Harvard Mind Brain Behavior Interfaculty Initiative
Click [here](#) for the event zoom link. Email HarvardMBB@gmail.com for any questions.

Does the 'nature-nurture' question still merit discussion? Come hear three experts talk about a quasi-experimental and questionably ethical study conducted several decades ago designed to examine the nature-nurture question. Watch the film on your own and join for the panel discussion.

This event will be moderated by **CLBB Faculty Member Charles Nelson, PhD**, with panelists **CLBB Co-Founder and Co-Director Judith Edersheim, JD, MD** and **Steven Pinker, PhD**.



[Policing and the Brain: How Neuroscience Can Contribute to Police Reform](#)

March 31, 2021, 12:00pm-1:00pm ET | The Petrie-Flom Center at Harvard Law School

Panelists include:

CLBB Chief Scientific Officer Dr. Lisa Feldman Barrett, PhD, University Distinguished Professor at Northeastern University

CLBB Advisory Board Member Judge (Ret.) Andre M. Davis, JD, Circuit Judge (ret.) of the United States Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit and City Solicitor (ret.) of the Baltimore City Department of Law

Dr. Altaf Saadi, MD, MSc, Neurologist at Massachusetts General Hospital and Instructor of Neurology at Harvard Medical School

April Events



[Mental Health Moonshot: Federal Funding for Psychedelics Research](#)

April 12, 2021, 12:00pm-1:00pm ET | The Petrie-Flom Center at Harvard Law School

Panelists include:

Dr. Mason Marks, Assistant Professor at Gonzaga University School of Law and the Edmond J. Safra/Petrie-Flom Center Joint Fellow-in-Residence at Harvard University

CLBB Advisory Board Member Dr. Jerrold F. Rosenbaum, Psychiatrist-in-Chief Emeritus and Director of the Center for Anxiety

and Traumatic Stress Disorders and Director of the Center for Neuroscience of Psychedelics at the Massachusetts General Hospital

Melissa Lavasani, Founder and Executive Director at Plant Medicine Coalition

Dr. Franklin King, Psychiatrist at Massachusetts General Hospital

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MGH Center for Law, Brain & Behavior, Dept. of Psychiatry, Bulfinch 351,
55 Fruit St., Boston, MA 02114

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