

# CLBB News

A newsletter from the Center for Law, Brain & Behavior

March 8, 2021

## Upcoming Online Events



### "How Brain Science Can Transform the Law": Neuroscience and Policy Colloquium

March 10, 2021, 12pm ET | American University Center for Neuroscience and Behavior  
Zoom link can be found [here](#).

**CLBB Executive Director Professor Shen** will present on recent advances in the use of neuroscience in the law.

This Neuroscience and Policy Colloquium is sponsored by American University's Center for Neuroscience and Behavior, in collaboration with the Washington College of Law and the School of Public Affairs.



### 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](#).

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 as 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**.

### Panelists:

**Judge (Ret.) Nancy Gertner, JD** is a Senior Lecturer of Law at Harvard Law School and a former federal judge of the United States District Court for the District of Massachusetts. Judge Gertner is a graduate of Barnard



College and Yale Law School, where she was an editor on The Yale Law Journal. She received her M.A. in Political Science at Yale University. She has been an instructor at Yale Law School, teaching sentencing and comparative sentencing institutions, since 1998. She was appointed to the bench in 1994 by President Clinton. In 2008, she received the Thurgood Marshall Award from the American Bar Association, Section of Individual Rights and Responsibilities, only the second woman to receive it (Justice Ginsburg was the first). She became a Leadership Council Member of the International Center for Research on Women the same year. In 2010, she received the Morton A. Brody Distinguished Judicial Service Award. In 2011, she received the Massachusetts Bar Association's Hennessey award for judicial excellence, and an honorary Doctor of Laws degree from Brandeis University. In 2014, she was selected as one of five recipients of the 2014 Margaret Brent Women Lawyers of Achievement Award,

established by the ABA Commission on the Status of Women in the Profession, for accomplishments in the field and inspiration to other women. She has been profiled on a number of occasions in the Boston Globe, the ABA Journal, Boston Magazine, and The Wall Street Journal. She has written and spoken widely on various legal issues and has appeared as a keynote speaker, panelist or lecturer concerning civil rights, civil liberties, employment, criminal justice and procedural issues, throughout the U.S., Europe and Asia. Her autobiography, *In Defense of Women: Memoirs of an Unrepentant Advocate*, was released on April 26, 2011. Her book, *The Law of Juries*, co-authored with attorney Judith Mizner, was published in 1997 and updated in 2010. She has published articles, and chapters on sentencing, discrimination, and forensic evidence, women's rights, and the jury system.



**Jeffrey Schall, PhD** is the inaugural scientific director of the York Visual Neurophysiology Centre and professor in the Department of Biology, Faculty of Science at York University. Dr. Schall was previously a professor in the Department of Psychology and the E. Bronson Ingram Professor of Neuroscience at Vanderbilt University, where he served as founding director of Vanderbilt University's Center for Integrative and Cognitive Neuroscience since 2000. From 1998 to 2015 he also directed the Vanderbilt Vision Research Center. Professor Schall is an innovative, prolific and internationally renowned scholar in the field of visual neurophysiology. He earned his PhD in anatomy at the University of Utah School of Medicine (1986) and subsequently completed postdoctoral training in the Department of Brain and Cognitive Sciences at MIT. His research, which has been supported by grants from the National Eye Institute, National Institute of Mental Health, National Science Foundation, and the

Air Force Office of Scientific Research, explores how the brain makes decisions and controls actions using cognitive neurophysiology, anatomical and computational approaches. His scholarly accomplishments have been honored with awards from the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation, the James S. McDonnell Foundation and the McKnight Endowment Fund for Neuroscience, as well as the Troland Research Award from the National Academy of Sciences. He is a Fellow of the Association for Psychological Science and the American Association for the Advancement of Science; and he was president of the Vision Science Society for its 2019 meeting.



**Sally Bernardina Seraphin, PhD** is a behavioral neuroscientist who studies the evolutionary developmental neurobiology of stress. Her interest in neurolaw began while observing an interconnectedness between her work studying the effects of early maltreatment and that of her husband, who is a public criminal defender. Dr. Seraphin was educated at the University of Massachusetts-Boston (BS, Psychology), Oxford University, UK (MSc, Human Biology), Emory University (PhD, Anthropology), and Harvard Medical School, where she spent 3 years as a Post-Doctoral Fellow in the Department of Psychiatry at McLean Hospital. In addition to neurolaw, she teaches courses in brain and behavior, human motivation and emotion, neuroscience methods, and social neuroscience.



**Francis Shen, JD, PhD** is the Executive Director of the Center for Law, Brain & Behavior at MGH; Instructor in Psychology at Harvard Medical School; Senior Fellow in Law and Applied Neuroscience at the Petrie-Flom Center in Health Law Policy, Biotechnology, and Bioethics at Harvard Law School; and Professor of Law and McKnight Presidential Fellow at the University of Minnesota Law School. For Fall 2020, Dr. Shen is a Florence Rogatz Visiting Professor of Law at Yale Law School. He directs the **Shen Neurolaw Lab**, whose motto is, "Every story is a brain story." Born and raised in St. Louis, MO, Shen received his B.A. from the University of Chicago, his J.D. from Harvard Law School, and his Ph.D. from Harvard University. Shen's research, which utilizes empirical methods and insights from neuroethics, examines how insights from neuroscience can make the legal system more just and effective. He has coauthored three books, including the first *Law and Neuroscience* casebook (Aspen, with Jones and Schall), with a fourth book currently under review at

Oxford Press. His research includes work on the intersection of neuroscience with criminal responsibility and sentencing, evidentiary admissibility, memory and lie detection, cognitive enhancement, trauma and asylum law, sports concussion, juror decision-making, criminal mental states, dementia, and human-animal chimeras. He also teaches and writes on artificial intelligence and the law and is supported by multiple NIH Neuroethics research grants to examine the ethical, legal, and social implications of field-based brain imaging and computational psychiatry.

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