

CLBB News

A newsletter from the Center for Law, Brain & Behavior

October 6, 2020

In Memoriam

In recent weeks CLBB and the legal community have mourned the passing of Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg and Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court Chief Justice Ralph Gants. CLBB Managing Director Judge (Ret.) Nancy Gertner offers reflections on the extraordinary work of both.

[Ruth Bader Ginsburg Was All I Wanted to Be](#)

The Washington Post | September 19, 2020

CLBB Managing Director Nancy Gertner honors the late Ruth Bader Ginsburg in this wonderful narrative of her life and her work.

Highlight: "She was all that I wanted to be. To devote one's life to the fight for civil rights, to use legal skills to effect justice, better yet to make a difference - I could think of nothing greater. And I was not alone; generations of civil rights lawyers looked to emulate her."



[SJC Chief Justice Ralph Gants Dies At 65](#)

WBUR | September 14, 2020

Chief Justice Ralph Gants of Massachusetts' Supreme Judicial Court has passed away at 65 years old after suffering a heart attack earlier this month. WBUR speaks with legal analyst and **CLBB Managing Director Nancy Gertner**, who is also a retired federal judge and senior lecturer at Harvard Law School.

CLBB Highlights



[Dr. Francis Shen: NeuroLaw - Your Brain and the Legal System](#)

September 16, 2020

CLBB Executive Director Francis Shen recently appeared on the highly rated podcast Critically Speaking to talk about law and neuroscience. Critically Speaking, hosted by geneticist Dr. Therese Markow, aims to inform the public, in everyday language, about issues at the intersection of science and society.

[That Harvard Racial Disparities Study: What's Left Out](#)

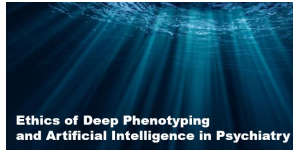
Boston Globe | September 11, 2020



CLBB Managing Director Nancy Gertner discusses the shortcomings of a study on racial disparities in the Massachusetts Criminal System, released by the Criminal Justice Policy Program at Harvard Law School.

Highlight: "The study raises larger issues, not just in what it covered, but also what it did not - or could not - include. It focused on what happened to criminal cases once they entered the Trial Court's system. It could not analyze the skewed pipeline that led to court to begin with - namely, policing and prosecutorial decisions."

Upcoming Events



TODAY!

[Boundless Data, Artificial Intelligence, and the Future of Deep Phenotyping in Psychiatry: Can Law and Ethics Keep Up?](#)
Oct 6, 2020 | 12:00-1:30 pm EDT ([link](#))

Yale Law School Information Society Project

"The deeper you go, the more you know." This headline captures the tantalizing promise of deep phenotyping in psychiatric research. Yet the road to this innovative future is fraught with ethical and legal dilemmas. In this talk, **CLBB Executive Director Dr. Francis Shen** will discuss the ethical, legal, and social implications (ELSI) of deep phenotyping research. Dr. Shen has been working on this project with the support of an NIH Bioethics Administrative Supplement award, and with colleagues **Dr. Benjy Silverman, MD, CLBB Affiliated Faculty Member Dr. Justin Baker, MD, PhD, Dr. Scott Rauch, MD**, and a working group of colleagues based at McLean Hospital and Harvard Medical School.



[Detecting Dementia: Technology, Aging Brains, and the Law](#)

November 16, 2020, 12:00-1:00 pm EDT

Advances in neuroimaging, genetics, and mobile health apps are creating unprecedented opportunities to detect subtle brain changes that may predict the onset of Alzheimer's disease and other types of dementia. But how much trust should we have in these new technologies, who will have access to them, and how should the law respond when litigants proffer novel evidence of their brain states? This panel will explore technological innovations in dementia detection, and their ethical, social, and legal implications.

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

Recent Events - Available for Viewing



[NIH Blueprint for Neuroscience Research: Addressing Neuroimaging Challenges Across Populations and Settings](#)

September 21-22, 2020 ([link to recorded webcast](#))

This conference, sponsored by the NIH Blueprint for Neuroscience Research, focused on addressing challenges associated with neuroimaging across a range of populations, settings, and approaches to study design and analysis. It brought together neuroimaging experts from both clinical and research backgrounds and technical developers working with multiple neuroimaging modalities. **CLBB Executive**

Director Francis X. Shen moderated a session on *Maximizing Inclusion in Neuroimaging Studies Across Settings*.



Guilty Minds: A Virtual Conference on Mens Rea and Criminal Justice Reform

September 25-26, 2020 ([link to conference archive](#))

On September 25 and 26, 2020, the Academy for Justice and the Arizona State Law Journal convened the nation's leading criminal law professors and practitioners for an extended conversation about mens rea policy and its role within the broader criminal justice reform movement. **CLBB Executive Director Francis Shen and CLBB Managing Director Nancy Gertner** both participated in the program.

Faculty Research and News



Neuroscience: The Next Brain

Fundación Innovación Bankinter

Project BRAIN seeks to promote and promote the development of new technologies to increase knowledge about the brain and find a cure for different brain diseases. **CLBB Affiliated Faculty Member and the first Senior Fellow in Law and Applied Neuroscience, Amanda Pustilnik, JD** contributed to the report and explored privacy concerns surrounding brain data. Read the full report [here](#).



Dr. Margaret Sheridan Awarded a National Institute of Mental Health Grant

UNC Chapel Hill | August 11, 2020

CLBB Affiliated Faculty Member Margaret Sheridan, PHD is the recipient of a 2020 National Institute of Mental Health grant. "The National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH) is the largest funder of research on mental disorders in the world and the lead federal agency for research on mental disorders. Dr. Sheridan received a total award of over \$3.7 million (over five years) for her project, 'Neural Pathways Linking Early Adversity and Preschool Psychopathology to Adolescent Mental Health.'"



Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg Remembered by Entire Generations of Lawyers

Boston Globe | September 18, 2020

CLBB Managing Director Nancy Gertner was cited in this article, reflecting upon the life and accomplishments of Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg.

Highlights: Nancy Gertner, a retired US district court judge and a professor at Harvard Law School, said Ginsburg had inspired generations of women and wound up a reluctant pop culture icon while approaching the law as "a craftsperson who cared about the court's precedents and was going to work within them. ... Ruth Ginsburg was more than just a brilliant scholar, and a liberal, which is what the press reduced her to ... She essentially created the law of gender and race discrimination. From the time she was a lawyer, a litigator, she was raising issues about the nuance of discrimination."

In the News

General

[Why Do You Feel Lonely? Neuroscience Is Starting to Find Answers](#) | MIT Technology Review | Sep 4, 2020

[How Neuroscientist Tara Nealey Found a Niche in Law](#) | KSDK | Sep 17, 2020

Neuroscience, Law & COVID-19

[Neuroinvasion of Sars-Cov-2 in Human and Mouse Brain](#) | BioRxiv | Sep 8, 2020

[Over 850 inmates at Folsom Prison have caught COVID-19, most of them in past 2 weeks](#) | The Sacramento Bee | Sep 16, 2020

Juvenile and Emerging Adult Justice

[Nearly Three-Quarters of Youth Behind Bars Suffer From Mental Health Issues](#) | Cronkite News | Sep 4, 2020

['Insane': At Nearly \\$2 Million per Youth, Skyrocketing Costs at Juvenile Halls Renew Push for Closures](#) | San Francisco Chronicle | Sep 14, 2020

[Report: Black Youths in Allegheny County Continue to Enter Juvenile Justice System at Higher Rates Than Whites](#) | Pittsburgh Post-Gazette | Sep 14, 2020

[A Proposal to Transform California's Juvenile Justice System, Confront Climate Change](#) | Juvenile Justice Information Exchange | Sep 16, 2020

Trauma and Immigration Justice

[400,000 Immigrants Can Be Forced to Leave the U.S., Court Rules](#) | The New York Times | Sep 15, 2020

[Lawyers Allege Abuse of Migrant Women by Gynecologist for Georgia Ice Detention Center](#) | NBC News | Sep 15, 2020

Elder Justice

[How to Help Dementia Patients and their Families During the Pandemic](#) | Santa Barbara Independent | Aug 25, 2020

[Pandemic Isolation Has Killed Thousands of Alzheimer's Patients While Families Watch From Afar](#) | The Washington Post | Sep 16, 2020

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