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CLBB News

A newsletter from the Center for Law, Brain & Behavior

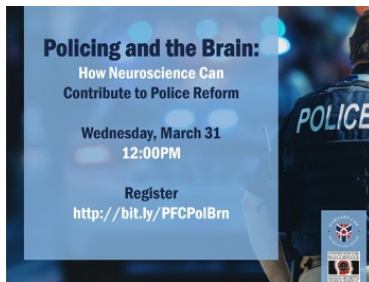
May 28, 2021

CLBB Events in Review: 2020-2021

Since its founding, the Center for Law, Brain & Behavior has prioritized public events and dissemination of knowledge to diverse audiences. As the academic year draws to a close, we present a review of events from 2020-21. As you check out the list below, you can click and watch events you missed.

Looking ahead, we are already planning for the 2021-22 event calendar. If you have an idea for a great event, we'd love to hear. Email contact@clbb.org with your ideas!

CLBB Sponsored Events



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

CLBB & the Petrie-Flom Center at Harvard Law School | March 31, 2021

On March 31, 2021, the Center for Law, Brain & Behavior and the Petrie-Flom Center at Harvard Law School held an online event to discuss recent neuroscience research into emotions and the brain, and the significance of this research for police reform efforts. Among the featured panelists were **CLBB Chief Scientific Officer Lisa Feldman Barrett, PhD**, **CLBB Advisory Board Member Judge (Ret.) Andre M. Davis**, and **Elyssa Spitzer, JD**, Senior Fellow in Law and Applied Neuroscience, CLBB and the Petrie-Flom Center. View the fully captioned event video [here](#).

This event was 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.

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

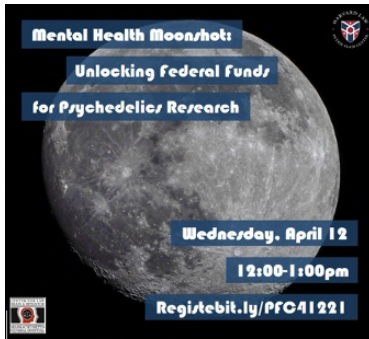
CLBB & the Petrie-Flom Center at Harvard Law School | November 16, 2020

On November 16, 2021, the Center for Law, Brain & Behavior and the Petrie-Flom Center at Harvard Law School held an online event to discuss the technological innovations in dementia detection -- such as advances in neuroimaging, genetics, and mobile health apps -- and their ethical, social, and legal implications. The panel included **Bruce Price, CLBB Co-Founder and Co-Director**. To view a recording of the event, please



see [here](#).

This event was 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.



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

CLBB & the Petrie-Flom Center at Harvard Law School | April 12, 2021

On April 12, 2021, the Center for Law, Brain & Behavior and the Petrie-Flom Center at Harvard Law School held an online event to discuss the need for an ambitious federally-funded mental health moonshot built around psychedelics and analyze the obstacles to achieving it. Among the featured panelists were **CLBB Advisory Board Member Dr. Jerrold F. Rosenbaum**, and event moderator **Elyssa Spitzer, JD**, Senior Fellow in Law and Applied Neuroscience at CLBB and the Petrie-Flom Center. View the fully captioned event video [here](#).

This event was 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.



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

The Center for Law, Brain & Behavior | March 15, 2021

This year marks the publication of the second edition of the Law and Neuroscience casebook, co-authored by Owen Jones, Jeffrey Schall, and **CLBB Executive Director Dr. Francis Shen**. This event served as a book launch for the new edition, and featured 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.



[Trauma, Truth, and the Scientific Shortcomings of U.S. Asylum Law](#)

McLean Hospital, Perspectives on Trauma Lecture Series | February 17, 2021

On February 17, 2021, **CLBB Co-Director and Co-Founder Judith Edersheim** and **CLBB Executive Director Francis Shen** discussed current efforts at the Center for Law, Brain & Behavior to leverage memory science for a more nuanced legal approach to credibility assessment in asylum law. To learn more about CLBB's work on immigration and trauma see [here](#).

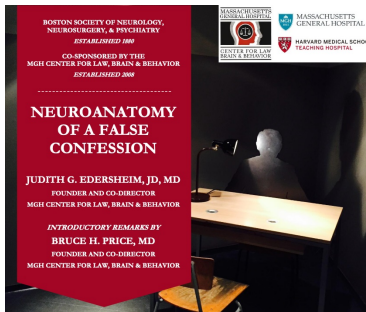
[Brain Based Justice Reform: Psychiatry, Neuroscience and the Law](#)

3rd Annual Carol W. Taylor Lecture in Psychiatry Grand Rounds
MGH Dept. of Psychiatry | January 14, 2021

On January 14, 2021, **CLBB Co-Director and Co-Founder Judith**



Edersheim presented at the 3rd Annual Carol W. Taylor lecture, sponsored by the Massachusetts General Hospital Psychiatry Academy. Dr. Edersheim discussed how recent discoveries in the fields of adolescent neurodevelopment and the neurobiology of substance use have already begun to advance fairness and equity in the legal system. Watch the lecture [here](#).



Neuroanatomy of a False Confession

The Boston Society of Neurology, Neurosurgery, & Psychiatry and CLBB | September 17, 2020

On September 17, 2020, **CLBB Co-Founder and Co-Director Judith Edersheim** presented "Neuroanatomy of a False Confession," sponsored by the Boston Society of Neurology, Neurosurgery, & Psychiatry and co-sponsored by the Center for Law, Brain and Behavior. Introductory remarks were made by **CLBB Co-Founder and Co-Director Bruce Price**.



Judith Edersheim, MD, PhD, is Co-Founder and Co-Director of the Center for Law, Brain and Behavior, an Assistant Professor of Psychiatry at Harvard Medical School, and an attending Psychiatrist in the Department of Psychiatry at Massachusetts General Hospital. Dr. Edersheim graduated magna cum laude and Phi Beta Kappa from Brown University and attended law school at Harvard, where she graduated cum laude. She was a law clerk to the Honorable Robert W. Sweet, United States District Judge for the Southern District of New York, and practiced law at the firm of Will and Butler before returning to Harvard Medical School. She was an intern at the Mount Auburn Hospital and received her clinical psychiatry training at the Cambridge Hospital while pursuing her graduate program. Dr. Edersheim completed a fellowship in the Law and Psychiatry section at Massachusetts General Hospital. She is a member of the Bar of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, is licensed to practice medicine in Massachusetts and is Board Certified by the American Board of Psychiatry and Neurology, with added qualifications in Forensic Psychiatry. Dr. Edersheim performs a wide variety of civil and criminal forensic psychiatric evaluations and teaches extensively in the legal arena. Her research interest is in the interaction of psychiatric and neurological behavior into legal settings. She has published articles regarding the intersection of legal and medical concepts in peer-reviewed medical journals and has been a featured speaker locally, regionally and nationally regarding issues pertaining to neuroscience, psychiatry and the law.



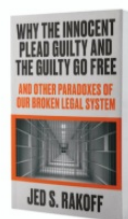
CLBB Leadership Conducts Flaschner Judicial Institute Training Series

CLBB & Flaschner Judicial Institute | Fall 2020

In 2020, CLBB partnered with the Flaschner Judicial Institute to produce an ongoing neuroscience and law learning series for Massachusetts judges. The series this past fall included four lectures, including **CLBB Managing Director Judge Nancy Gertner (Ret.)** and **CLBB Executive Director Francis Shen's** lecture on "Sentencing and Neuroscience," **CLBB Co-Director and Co-Founder Judith Edersheim's** lecture on "Mental Illness in the Courtroom," and **CLBB Associate Managing Director Robert Kinscherff's** lecture on "Adolescent and Young Adult Neurodevelopment."

CLBB Leadership & Faculty Member Affiliated Events

Spring 2021



Why the Innocent Plead Guilty and the Guilty Go Free: And Other Paradoxes of Our Broken Legal System

University of Minnesota Law School | April 12, 2021

On April 12 2021, Judge **Jed S. Rakoff**, of the United States District Court for the Southern District of New York, discussed his highly anticipated, now newly released book, *Why the Innocent Plead Guilty and the Guilty Go Free: And Other Paradoxes of Our Broken Legal System*. This discussion included opening remarks from Garry W. Jenkins, and **CLBB Executive Director Francis Shen** moderated the event. A full recording of the webinar is available [here](#).

Three Identical Strangers: Virtual Panel Discussion

Harvard Mind Brain Behavior Interfaculty Initiative | March 29, 2021



Does the 'nature-nurture' question still merit discussion? On March 29, 2021, three experts talked about a quasi-experimental and questionably ethical study conducted several decades ago designed to examine the nature-nurture question. This event was moderated by **CLBB Faculty Member Charles Nelson, PhD**, with panelists **CLBB Co-Founder and Co-Director Judith Edersheim, JD, MD** and **Steven Pinker, PhD**.



[Anxiety and Depression Association of America \(ADAA\) to Hold 41st Annual Conference](#)

Anxiety and Depression Association of America | March 18 and 19, 2021

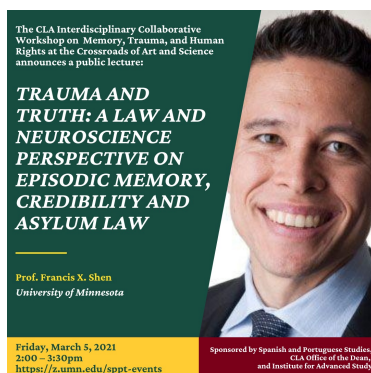
This two-day, 3D event focused on resiliency and its relationship to the most urgent issues impacting the mental health of both adults and children--the pandemic, stress, suicide, and working with minority clients. The 24th Annual Scientific Research Symposium, "Resilience and Recovery: From Research to Practice," was sponsored by Janssen Neuroscience and co-chaired by **CLBB Faculty Member Kerry Ressler, MD, PhD**, and Victoria Risbrough, PhD.



["How Brain Science Can Transform the Law": Neuroscience and Policy Colloquium](#)

American University Center for Neuroscience and Behavior | March 10, 2021

CLBB Executive Director Francis Shen presented 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.



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

University of Minnesota | March 5, 2021

In this presentation, **CLBB Executive Director Francis Shen** discussed 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.

Click [here](#) to learn more about CLBB's work on trauma, neuroscience, and asylum law.



Scientific Oppression, Biological Reductionism, and the Future of Neurotechnology

The International Neuroethics Society | February 25, 2021

This event, organized by the INS Diversity & Inclusion Task Force, featured three scholars -- including **CLBB Executive Director Francis Shen** -- who shared their unique perspectives on the future of neurotechnology and social justice. Panelists discussed how we can keep neurotechnology from continuing legacies of harm against people of color, women, LGBTQIA-identifying persons, and people with disabilities.



Harvard Undergraduate Psychological Association for Underrepresented Students Symposium

Harvard College | February 20, 2021

CLBB Executive Director Francis Shen presented at the Harvard Undergraduate Psychological Association for Underrepresented Students Symposium along with Dr. Natasha Parikh, Dr. Fiery Cushman, Asma Ghani, Akshita Srinivasan, and Franchesca Castro-Ramirez. This symposium featured faculty and students in psychology; the first portion of the Symposium featured speaker talks on a topic of the speaker's choice, while the second portion featured undergraduate students presenting their own work/research in psychology.



Ethical, Legal, and Social Implications of Deep Phenotyping

The Petrie-Flom Center at Harvard Law School | January 20, 2021

This digital symposium presented by Petrie-Flom Center at Harvard Law School explored the ethical, legal, and social implications of advances in deep phenotyping in psychiatry research. In the [symposium introduction](#), **CLBB Executive Director Francis Shen** highlighted that deep phenotyping in psychiatric research and practice is a term used to describe the collection and analysis of multiple streams of behavioral and biological data, some of this data collected around the clock, to identify and intervene in critical health events.



Talking to Kids About the Washington, D.C. Riot: Dr. Brendel Interviews Dr. Gene Beresin

MGH Clay Center | January 9, 2021

On January 9, 2021, **CLBB Law and Ethics Director Dr. Rebecca Brendel** and **CLBB Faculty Member Dr. Gene Beresin** discussed how to talk to kids and teens about the January 6, 2021 riot in Washington, D.C. They spoke about age-specific concerns and conversation-starters for pre-schoolers, school-age kids, and teenagers, as well as how adults can model media literacy and help kids and teens understand the power of the word, especially on social media. To view the recording, see [here](#).

7 and a Half Lessons About the Brain - Conversation with Lisa Feldman Barrett & George Hammond

Commonwealth Club | December 1, 2020



The Commonwealth Club held a virtual conversation with **CLBB Chief Scientific Officer Lisa Feldman Barrett** to explore fundamental questions, like why we even have a brain and what that means for all of us.

Lisa Feldman Barrett invited the audience to think about important topics such as: *Are we rational creatures? If rationality is not the absence of emotion, what is it? Why does loneliness make people physically sick?* And more. Listen to the full audio recording [here](#).

Fall 2020

2020 Professional Equity Symposium

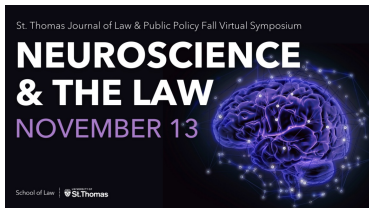
Mind the Gap: Pay Equity in Academic Medicine



Joint Committee on the Status of Women Professional Equity Symposium

November 17, 2020

The Joint Committee on the Status of Women (JCSW) Professional Equity Symposium was held on November 17, 2020, as a Harvard Medical School virtual meeting. The panel focused on equity analysis, on defining best practices, and on steps for implementation of a framework to ensure equity. Speakers included **CLBB Managing Director Nancy Gertner, JD, MA**. A full recording of the event is available on the [event website](#).



Neuroscience & the Law

The University of St. Thomas School of Law | November 13, 2020

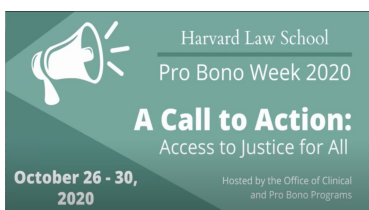
On Friday, November 13, 2020, the University of St. Thomas Journal of Law and Public Policy hosted the Fall Symposium on the cutting-edge topic of Neuroscience and the Law. Panelists discussed topics of free will, criminal law and neuroscience, addictive behavior and the law, mental illness under international human rights law, and more. **CLBB Executive Director Francis Shen** presented during the first panel of the morning. To view the event, please see [here](#).



CLBB Executive Director Francis Shen Featured as Keynote Speaker in Kashmir, India Workshop on Juvenile Justice

Kashmir News Service | November 4, 2020

CLBB Executive Director Francis Shen served as the first keynote speaker of an international workshop on juvenile justice hosted by the Central University of Kashmir's School of Legal Studies. The keynote featured recent advancements in law and the developing brain, including CLBB's innovative programs and amicus briefs.



In Honor of Chief Justice Gants: Eradicating Racial Disparities in the Criminal Justice System

Office of Clinical and Pro Bono Programs | October 29, 2020

On October 29, 2020, as part of [National Pro Bono Week](#), the Office of Clinical and Pro Bono Programs hosted an online event to discuss the critical next steps in eradicating racial disparities in the criminal justice system, particularly the disparity in the rates of imprisonment among Whites, African-Americans and Latinos. Panelists included **CLBB Faculty Member Judge Jay Blitzman (Ret.)**, **CLBB Managing Director Judge Nancy Gertner (Ret.)**, and Rev. Rashaan Hall from the ACLU of Massachusetts.

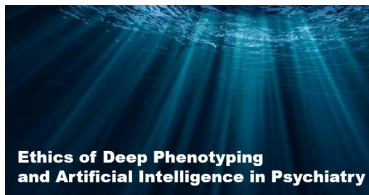


[Technology in Psychiatry Summit \(TIPS\) 2020](#)

McLean Institute for Technology in Psychiatry | October 28-30, 2020

On October 28-30, over 450 attendees joined the 2020 Technology in Psychiatry Summit virtually for 30+ talks, keynotes, and moderated panel discussions on the intersection of technology and psychiatry. These talks are [now available on YouTube](#).

This event was sponsored by the McLean Institute for Technology in Psychiatry and included presentations from **CLBB Executive Director Francis Shen** (see [here](#)), **CLBB Faculty Member Justin Baker** (see [here](#)) and **CLBB Faculty Member Kerry Ressler** (see [here](#)).



[Boundless Data, Artificial Intelligence, and the Future of Deep Phenotyping in Psychiatry: Can Law and Ethics Keep Up?](#)

Yale Law School Information Society Project | October 6, 2020

In this talk, **CLBB Executive Director Dr. Francis Shen** discussed 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.



[Guilty Minds: A Virtual Conference on Mens Rea and Criminal Justice Reform](#)

Academy for Justice and the Arizona State Law Journal | September 25-26, 2020

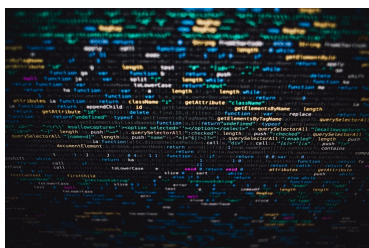
On September 25 and 26, 2020, the Academy for Justice and the Arizona State Law Journal convened the nation's leading criminal law professors and practitioners for an extended conversation about mens rea policy and its role within the broader criminal justice reform movement. **CLBB Executive Director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



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

NIH Blueprint for Neuroscience Research | September 21-22, 2020

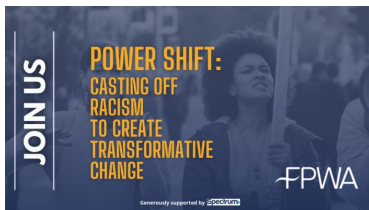
This conference, sponsored by the NIH Blueprint for Neuroscience Research, focused on addressing challenges associated with neuroimaging across a range of populations, settings, and approaches to study design and analysis. Workshop participants included both clinical and research neuroimaging experts, as well as technical developers. **CLBB Executive Director Francis Shen** moderated a session on Maximizing Inclusion in Neuroimaging Studies Across Settings. The recording of the webcast can be viewed [here](#).



[Facial Recognition Technology and Its Algorithmic Racial Bias](#)

University of Minnesota | September 18, 2020

On September 18, 2020, **CLBB Executive Director Francis Shen** moderated a panel discussion hosted by the University of Minnesota exploring the promise and perils of greater use of AI and facial recognition technology by law enforcement. The panel featured Angel Diaz, Brennan Center for Justice; Elizabeth Joh, UC Davis School of Law; Deborah Raji, AI



[Power Shift: Casting off Racism to Create Transformative Change](#)

FPWA | Originally Aired on September 18, 2020 ([Watch On-Demand](#))

The Federation of Protestant Welfare Agencies (FPWA) convened a two-hour virtual event entitled: Power Shift: Casting off Racism to Create Transformative Change, seeking an open and honest debate about the changes human services nonprofits must make to build true and lasting racial equity and power sharing into every aspect of their organizational structure and work. Panelists included **CLBB Advisory Board Member Jennifer Jones Austin** (Moderator, CEO & Executive Director, FPWA).



[TED MED Talk: Every Story Is A Brain Story](#)

Boston, MA | September 2020

CLBB Executive Director Francis Shen's TED MED 2020 talk -- Why Every Story is a Brain Story -- is now available for viewing online. In this talk Dr. Shen explores how neuroscience can transform the law. TED MED 2020's theme was "Make Way for Wonder" and Dr. Shen commented: When I make way for wonder, I see the law and the legal system not as they are, but as they can become.

[COVID-19: Law, Economics, Governance - COVID and the Incarcerated](#)

Solomon Center at Yale Law School | August 26, 2020

On August 26, 2020, **CLBB Managing Director Nancy Gertner** spoke on "COVID & the Incarcerated" at the Solomon Center for Health Law and Policy at Yale Law School. Judge Gertner was joined by Dr. Jaimie Meyer, Marisol Orihuela, Judith Resnik, and other government leaders, academics, jurists, and scientists to discuss topics related to COVID.



[What and How Neuroethics can Contribute to Improving Racial Inequities and Underserved Communities?](#)

NIH BRAIN Initiative | August 20, 2020

On Thursday, August 20 at 12:00 pm eastern, **CLBB Executive Director Francis Shen** spoke with Duke neuroscientist Dr. Kafui Dzirasa, MD, PhD, on *what and how neuroethics can contribute to improving racial inequities and underserved communities?* The panel was part of an NIH BRAIN Initiative's Neuroethics Working Group (NEWG) meeting. View the full recording [here](#).



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