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CLBB News

A newsletter from the Center for Law, Brain & Behavior

June 15, 2021

CLBB Welcomes Summer 2021 Research Assistants!

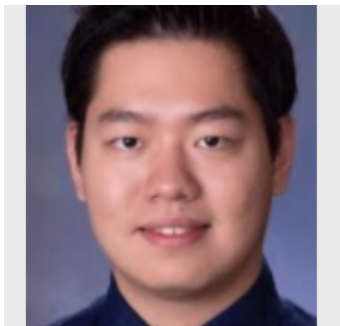
The MGH Center for Law, Brain & Behavior regularly engages students in the Center's work related to juvenile and emerging adult justice, criminal sentencing, trauma and asylum law, and elder justice. Students at the Center come from diverse backgrounds and include undergraduates, law students, medical students, and post-docs. For more information about our summer 2021 research associates and research assistants, as well as some of our past student researchers, take a look at their [impressive bios](#).



Ilham Abdalla Tagelsir Ali recently graduated from Harvard College with a Bachelor of Arts in History & Science and a secondary in Government. A native of Khartoum, Sudan, Ilham is deeply invested in constitutional reform in Sudan, social justice across the globe, and neuroscience that is relevant to law. Ilham has served as the co-chair for the Black Community Leaders and on the boards of Act on a Dream, the Harvard African Students Association, and the Black Pre-Law Association. Ilham hopes to pursue a Master of Philosophy in Socio-Legal Research before continuing to law school.



Mariah Bellamoroso recently completed her first year at Harvard Law School. She has a BA in Sociology and Anthropology from Lewis and Clark College in Portland, OR. Before law school, she worked as a science and technology writer in Seattle, WA. She is interested in bioethics and technology policy and criminal justice reform. In her spare time, she enjoys cooking, hiking, and backpacking.



Junchi Chu is a second-year master's student at Brown CS, focusing on the design of Artificial Intelligence. He holds a BA in Pure Mathematics and Computer Science from the University of Maryland. He previously interned at a stock investment company in Shenzhen, China. He is also a writer and a part-time lecturer for an AI education company in Beijing. Outside of the classroom, Junchi loves fishing, playing basketball, studying stock investments, and writing his own novels.

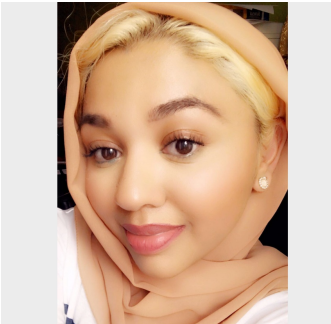
Heloise Evins-Mackenzie is a sophomore at Colby College, where she is



pursuing majors in Biology (Neuroscience concentration) and Government. She has worked with people with serious mental illness and addictive disorders at Massachusetts General Hospital and has an interest in pursuing projects to increase the impact of psychiatric research on law and policy. In her free time, Heloise is an avid environmentalist and has started a nonprofit to fund research on coral reef renewal and conservation efforts in the Caribbean.



Annie Ilsley is a rising senior studying Neuroscience and Spanish at Duke University. Outside of class, she researches the neural basis of decision-making and conducts linguistic analyses of legal arguments in the Motivated Cognition and Aging Brain Lab at Duke. She is interested in combining the study of these areas in neuroscience and the legal system to illuminate how legal decisions are made. In the future, she plans to pursue a dual degree and apply her interest in neuroscience topics such as memory, the aging brain, and the developing brain to better inform policy and the justice system. Annie also enjoys volunteering as an English tutor for native Spanish speakers in the local community and in her free time, you can find her reading, hiking, or baking.



Najet Miah recently graduated from Queens College with a Bachelor of Arts in Psychology. Previously, she was a public health fellow for Bard Prison Initiative. There, she focused on the legal implications of New York's Raise the Age legislation for violent adolescents in light of recent adolescent brain research. As a formerly incarcerated individual herself, Najet is passionate about reforming our criminal justice system to reflect the incredible human capacity for change. She believes that the intersection of law and neuroscience is critical to achieving this reform, and she is excited to be directly involved with furthering this work at CLBB this summer. She intends to start a dual JD/Ph.D. program next year. In her free time, Najet likes to kickbox, write, and learn new languages.



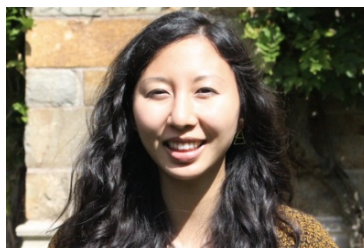
Alex Walker recently completed his first year at Harvard Law School. He holds a BA from Columbia University in Economics-Political Science and Linguistics. Prior to law school, he worked as a Spanish teacher and spent time volunteering as an ESL teacher. Outside of school, he enjoys rock climbing, conversing, and listening to audiobooks.

Outgoing Spring Research Assistants

We would like to extend a special thank you to our dedicated research assistants who met with CLBB leadership every week this spring via Zoom. We appreciate your valuable contributions to furthering CLBB's mission to making accessible the most updated and actionable information related to neuroscience and the legal system.



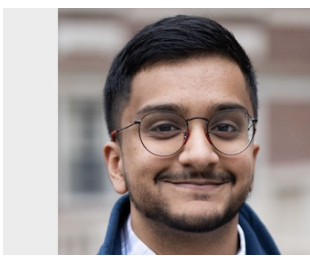
Elizabeth Escalante



Katherine Fang



Ian Hayes



Shreyas Iyer



Clarissa Kimmey



Layla Malamut



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