



MASSACHUSETTS
GENERAL HOSPITAL

MASSACHUSETTS
GENERAL HOSPITAL

HARVARD MEDICAL SCHOOL
TEACHING HOSPITAL

CLBB News

A newsletter from the Center for Law, Brain & Behavior

September 14, 2020

Back to School Edition

Each September marks an important transition month for CLBB. Our summer interns complete their work and return to classes, new students join as research assistants, and CLBB leadership returns to teaching and mentoring in classrooms, labs and hospitals.

In this Newsletter we say **thank you** to our outgoing students and **welcome** to our new and returning students.

For this year, of course, the transition back to school is mostly virtual. But through Zoom meetings, Slack channels, and web-based events, the work of CLBB carries on. Although there are many drawbacks to working remotely, and although we can't wait to see you again in person at our events, one benefit of virtual events is that you can join us no matter where you are in this world.

We look forward to "seeing" you this fall and continuing to share with you many exciting updates about our work.

-- Francis Shen, CLBB Executive Director

Upcoming Events

Neuroanatomy of a False Confession

THIS THURSDAY - Sept. 17, 2020, 7:00-8:30pm EDT

On Thursday, September 17 2020 at 7pm Eastern, **CLBB Founder and Co-Director Judith G. Edersheim, JD, MD**, will present "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. To access the virtual meeting please click [here](#), and to register for the event, please see [here](#).

ROSTON SOCIETY OF NEUROLOGY, NEUROGERIATRY, & PSYCHIATRY
ESTABLISHED 1999

CO-SPONSORED BY THE MGH CENTER FOR LAW, BRAIN & BEHAVIOR
ESTABLISHED 2008

NEUROANATOMY OF A FALSE CONFESSION

JUDITH G. EDERSHEIM, JD, MD
FOUNDER AND CO-DIRECTOR
MGH CENTER FOR LAW, BRAIN & BEHAVIOR

INTRODUCTORY REMARKS BY
BRUCE H. PRICE, MD
FOUNDER AND CO-DIRECTOR
MGH CENTER FOR LAW, BRAIN & BEHAVIOR

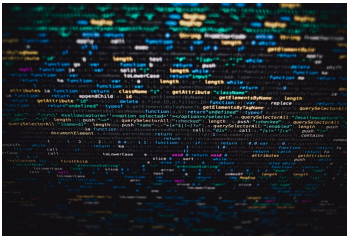


Judith Edersheim, MD, JD, is Co-Founder and Co-Director of the Center for Law, Brain and Behavior, an Assistant Professor of Psychiatry at Harvard Medical School, and an attending Psychiatrist in the Department of Psychiatry at Massachusetts General Hospital. Dr. Edersheim graduated magna cum laude and Phi Beta Kappa from Brown University and practiced law until she returned to Harvard where she graduated cum laude. She was a law clerk to the Honorable Robert W. Stone, United States District Judge for the Southern District of New York, and practiced law at the City of Fall River and Boston before returning to Harvard Medical School. She was a member of the Royal Academy (England) and earned her doctorate in psychology from the Cambridge Hospital and Psychiatry Institute program. Dr. Edersheim is a member of the Bar of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. She is trained in geriatric medicine in Massachusetts and is Board Certified by the American Board of Psychiatry and Neurology, with subspecialties in Forensic Psychiatry. Dr. Edersheim's research interests include using all levels of evidence to evaluate psychiatric and medical malpractice in the legal arena. Her research centers on the resolution of forensic and clinical malpractice through legal settings. She has published articles regarding the intersection of legal and medical concepts in post-forensic medical events and has been featured in popular health, nationally and internationally regarding issues pertaining to neuroscience, psychiatry and the law.

Thursday, September 17, 2020, 7-8:30pm

Virtual Meetings, <https://partners.zoom.us/j/2943927859>
RSVP and Register at <https://bit.ly/72EYyK>

MGH Center for Law, Brain & Behavior
Facebook Twitter



Facial Recognition Technology and Its Algorithmic Racial Bias

THIS FRIDAY - Sept. 18, 2020, 1:00-2:00 pm EDT

On Friday, September 18, 2020 at 1 pm Eastern, **CLBB Executive Director Francis Shen** will moderate 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 will feature [Angel Diaz](#), Brennan Center for Justice; [Elizabeth Joh](#), UC Davis School of Law; [Deborah Raji](#), AI Now Institute at New York University; and [Jameson Spivack](#), Center on Privacy & Technology at Georgetown Law.

Detecting Dementia: Technology, Aging Brains, and the Law

Wed., April 1 | 12:00pm | Harvard Law School | Wasserstein Hall, Milstein East C

Jonathan Jackson, PhD
Founding Director, Community Access, Assessment and Engagement (CARE) Research Center at Massachusetts General Hospital and Harvard Medical School

Bruce H. Price, MD
Co-Founder and Director, Massachusetts General Hospital Center for Law, Brain and Behavior
Executive Professor of Harvard Medical School
Chief of Department of Neurology, Harvard Medical School

Ipsit Vahia, MD
Medical Director, Geriatric Psychiatry Outpatient Services and Memory Institute for Technology in Psychiatry, Harvard Medical School
Ph, Technology in Aging (Ph, Jackson House)

Carmel Shcherer, JD, MPH
Executive Director, Petrie-Flom Center for Health Law Policy, Biotechnology and Bioethics
Director, Regulatory Affairs, and Law Program of Harvard Cultural, Herbaria Division, and Translational Science Center

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.

The event will be live-streamed. To access the live-stream: <https://petrie.flom.law.harvard.edu/events/detecting-dementia>

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, 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 was to 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.

Student Highlights



Federal Trade Commission PrivacyCon

CLBB Research Assistant **Sarah Lagan** presented at the [FTC PrivacyCon](#), an online conference focused on privacy concerns of health information. She discussed her research around mental health apps and efforts to develop a system of [app evaluation](#) with the Division of Digital Psychiatry.

Thank You to our Summer Research Assistants



Each week this summer, our amazing team of student intern research assistants met with CLBB leadership via Zoom to pursue research related to neuroscience and the legal system.

Some of our RAs will continue to work into the fall, but many have now returned to full time classes. We thank these students for their valuable contributions!

Meet the Fall 2020 Research Assistants

The MGH Center for Law, Brain & Behavior regularly engages students in the Center's work related to criminal justice, trauma and asylum law, and aging brains. Students at the Center come from diverse backgrounds and include undergraduates, law students, medical students, and post-docs.

We are excited to announce our new and returning student interns for this fall, who are already hard at work on many Center projects. For more information about our current and past student researchers, take a look at their [impressive bios](#).



Ian Hayes is a third-year student at Harvard College where he studies Sociology and Global Health. Passionate about impacting underserved populations in both the fields of medicine and law, Ian plans to pursue a joint degree after graduation. Outside of the classroom, Ian interns at the Harvard Legal Aid Bureau at HLS, is a leader for the SoulFood Christian fellowship, and is involved with various other community service and cultural organizations. In his spare time, Ian enjoys singing, backpacking, and reading novels.



Shreyas Iyer is a sophomore at Harvard College, where he's concentrating in Computer Science with a secondary in Economics. Shreyas is interested in the intersection of computer science and theoretical neuroscience, specifically using statistical models of the human brain to create and design intelligent systems. Outside of the classroom, Shreyas is involved in the Harvard College Consulting Group, enjoys playing tennis, and reads tons of non-fiction.



Sarah Lagan graduated from Harvard College in 2019 with a degree in Neurobiology and minor in History. She has worked in both child development and mental health research and is passionate about promoting youth and adolescent well-being through clinical research. Sarah is very interested in the potential of neuroscience to effect changes in law and policy and is thrilled to participate in this work with CLBB. In her free time, she loves to run, bake, and cheer on Boston sports teams.



Fenella McLuskie is a second-year student at Harvard Law School. She has a BA in Philosophy and Natural Sciences from the University of Cambridge and a Graduate Diploma in Law from City, University of London. While in London, she taught debate in prisons and represented children who had been expelled from school. She is interested in criminal justice reform, especially in alternative sentencing. A former college rower, Fenella spends much of her free time at the gym. She also loves languages and is currently learning Mandarin Chinese.



Madeleine Muller is a senior at Northwestern University majoring in Psychology and minoring in Legal Studies. She is particularly interested in the ways that neuroscience and psychology research can improve our legal system, especially to better serve and represent vulnerable populations. Prior to CLBB, Madeleine interned at De Novo Center for Justice and Healing where she worked to provide legal services to refugees seeking asylum in the United States. Outside of class, Madeleine mentors Chicago high schoolers through the college process and also enjoys playing on her intramural soccer team. Madeleine aspires to attend law school after graduation.



Jennifer Near is a junior at Harvard College concentrating in Neuroscience with a secondary in Global Health and Health Policy. On campus, Jennifer serves as the Co-President of Women in Science at Harvard-Radcliffe (WISHR), which aims to support diverse populations of undergraduates pursuing science degrees at Harvard. She is also the Secretary of Harvard's chapter of the Foundation for the International Medical Relief of Children (FIMRC), through which she raises money to support health clinics throughout Central and South America. In her free time, Jennifer enjoys dancing with Expressions Dance Company at Harvard and discovering new books to read. She hopes to attend medical school after graduating from college.



Erin Shortell is a third-year student in Harvard's JD/MPH program and a graduate of Harvard College, where she studied History and minored in Italian. Before law school, Erin worked as a paralegal at the Massachusetts Attorney General's Office and as a research assistant at the Harvard Department of Psychology, volunteering in her spare time at a Boston suicide helpline. Outside of school, she likes to practice Brazilian jiu jitsu, learn foreign languages, and read fiction.

In the News

General

[Black, Latinx Defendants Face Longer Average Prison Sentences in Mass., Harvard Law School Report Finds](#) | The Harvard Crimson | Sep 9, 2020

[Why Neuroscientists Say, 'Boredom Is Good For Your Brain's Health.'](#) | Forbes | Sep 2, 2020

[Study Sheds Light on Brain Mechanism Activated by Uncertainty](#) | ScienceDaily | Sep 2, 2020

[The Suffocating State of Physician Workforce Diversity](#) | JAMA Network | Aug 31, 2020

Neuroscience, Law, and COVID-19

[Coronavirus Triggers Drop in Prisoner Numbers and an Opportunity to Reinvent the Criminal Justice System, Lawyers say](#) | ABC | Aug 8, 2020

Juvenile and Emerging Adult Justice

[He's a Small Child: Utah Police Shot a 13-Year-Old Boy With Autism After His Mother Called 911 for Help](#) | The Washington Post | Sep 8, 2020

[A Proposal to Transform California's Juvenile Justice System](#) | Cal Matters | Aug 3, 2020

Trauma and Immigration Justice

[Childhood Trauma Can Speed Biological Aging](#) | The Harvard Gazette | Aug 3, 2020

CENTER FOR LAW, BRAIN & BEHAVIOR



clbb.mgh.harvard.edu