International Neuroethics Society

INTERNATIONAL NEUROETHICS SOCIETY NEWSLETTER SEPTEMBER 2014

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2014 Annual Meeting
November 13-14

AAAS building, 12th & H Streets, N.W.
Washington, DC

Don't miss the Annual Meeting of the International Neuroethics Society at the beautiful American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) building on November 13th and 14th—right before the Society for Neuroscience Meeting (September 15).

There is a remarkable line-up of speakers and captivating topics. Check out the speakers and full schedule. On Friday, at the all-day meeting you will hear from Congressman Chaka Fattah, several NIH directors, Henry Markram from the Human Brain Project, Stephen Hauser from the Presidential Commission for the Study of Bioethical Issues, and many others from across the globe.

Descriptions of two of the exciting meeting sessions are available on our website:
Neuroscience in the Courts – International Case Studies
Neuroscience and Human Rights

In addition to the panels, there are networking opportunities at breakfast, lunch and two receptions – one featuring a poster session.

Tell your colleagues. Send your students.

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A **public program "Robots and Society"** will be held on Thursday evening, November 13 from 5 – 7 p.m. Discussion will focus on advances in knowledge about human cognition and emotion and their application to the design and function of robotic-like devices in sectors from manufacturing to health care. Recent developments include, for example, self-driving cars, wearable devices that monitor vital health signs, IBM's computer Watson winning at Jeopardy! and the digital personal assistants Siri, Google Now and Cortana. Not far behind, perhaps, are autonomous weapon systems, great wealth for some and serious economic dislocation for others, and shared decision making between humans and robots. This session will focus on the technical, ethical and social implications of these and similar technologies.

Register before September 15th for a discounted rate! Space is limited!

Visit the International Neuroethics Society website for the full agenda.
Contact Karen Graham at kgraham@neuroethicssociety.org with any questions.

Welcome Back, Chelsea!

Chelsea Ott re-joins the International Neuroethics Society as the Communications Manager after previously working for INS for two and a half years while she was a student at the University of Pennsylvania. After graduation, she worked as the Program Coordinator for The Greenwall Foundation. Chelsea is now attending Seton Hall University School of Law where she intends to concentrate in health law and maintain her interest in bioethics and neuroethics.

Read a Good Book Lately?

INS members would like to hear about it. If you have enjoyed a book or film and would like to share with the membership, please send a brief review to administrator@neuroethicssociety.org. We can use everything from scholarly works and documentaries to fiction and they don't need to be long -- a few paragraphs will do -- and they don't need to be new -- just relevant to the field of neuroethics. Share your finds with colleagues.

2014 International Neuroethics Society Abstract Awards

$500 and Oral Presenter
#78, Laura Cabrera, University of British Columbia,
Substantive Discrepancies Between Academic and Public Concerns Regarding the Ethics of Neuroenhancement.

$250 and Oral Presenter
#73, Ryan H. Purcell and Karen S. Rommelfanger, Emory University,
An Ethical Evaluation of Commercial Brain Training Programs.

$250 and Oral Presenter
#44, Matthew L. Baum, Harvard University,
Progress in the Neuroethics of Biomarkers Requires Reorientation of the Concept of Disorder Around Risk of Harm.

$1000 and Oral Presenter
#30, Sebastian Porsdam-Mann and Barbara J. Sahakian, University of Cambridge, *Pharmacological Cognitive Enhancement: What are the Costs and Benefits for the Individual and Society.*

Oral Presenter
#28, Denis Larrivee, Catholic Diocese of Charleston, SC, and Adriana Gini
Personal Identity and Neurotechnology: Ethical Reflections on Modulating Habit Formation.

$1000
#32, Anna Sedda, Gabriella Bottini, Universita degli Studi di Pavia,
Social and Ethical Behavioural Impoverishment: Two Cases of Frontal Degeneration.

$1000
#38, Giuiseppe Ugazio, University of Zurich,
The Neural Computation of Subjective Moral Value.

$1000
#52, Michele Farisco, Uppsala University, and Adriana Gini
Exploring a Speechless World. Cerebral Communication in Patients with DOCS

$1000
#77, Brian Earp, University of Oxford,
The Medicalization of Love.

2014 International Neuroethics Society Award Winners
$250 Travel Stipend Award Winner
Qing Yang, Yale University School of Medicine
Location of the soul and acceptance of brain death in the East and West

$250 Travel Stipend Award Winner
Katie Strong, Emory University
Exploring the Ethical Implications of the Commercialization of Physiological Computing

Thanks to the Wellcome Trust for contributing **five $1000 awards** toward the cost of travel and accommodation for early-career researchers from UK/Europe to attend the International Neuroethics Society Annual Meeting. Travel stipends are awarded based on the quality of abstracts submitted. Abstracts are reviewed by members of the INS Program Committee.

www.neuroethicssociety.org

INS at FENS

INS was at the 9th FENS Forum of Neuroscience held in Milan, Italy in July. The panel was a collaboration with the European Dana Alliance for the Brain (EDAB) and was attended by INS board member, Moheb Constandi, who provides the following summary:

Recent advances in neuroscience enable us to manipulate the workings of the brain and intervene to treat some neurological disorders. How far should researchers go in their quest to understand this complex organ and improve people's quality of life, and to what extent should they be responsible for making sure that others do not misuse their findings? Researchers addressed such dilemmas during the William Safire Seminar on Neuroethics at the 9th FENS Forum of Neuroscience held in Milan, Italy.

Vincent Walsh, a professor of cognitive neuroscience at University College London, discussed the use of non-invasive brain stimulation techniques such as transcranial direct current stimulation. Studies published in the past few years purport to show that these techniques can enhance a variety of brain functions, such as memory, numeracy, and language learning. Furthermore, cheap DIY brain stimulation devices are now available commercially, making it possible for anyone to attempt to boost their brain function.

Walsh questioned the reliability of the findings. "We're at a stage where the quality control [of these studies] has become very poor," he said. "There are some very bold claims, but there isn't a single significant replication between laboratories. One of the most highly cited papers in the field comes from my own laboratory, and I've twice failed to replicate it myself."

He also pointed out that the enhancement effects seen under laboratory conditions are unlikely to transfer to our daily lives. "The enhancement effects seen in the laboratory are significant and meaningful, [but] there are no significant demonstrations of them in real-world situations."

"We are no longer in control of what stories the general public hear about our data," he added. "They can decide which papers are worth listening to before any scientific consensus has been reached, so we have a duty to be much more measured in the claims we make."

Walsh thinks that brain stimulation should not be used to enhance performance in sports, education, or other realms. "You don't get good at anything with a short-term fix, but with years of training and judgment. If we allow [cognitive enhancement] into education then we lose the whole idea of what education is about."

Clinical neuropsychologist Barbara Sahakian of the University of Cambridge, who chaired the seminar, said that enhancement may be desirable in certain situations. "We may want to enhance military personnel in a war situation, or doctors who are working late at night, in order to make sure they remain awake and alert."

Itzhak Fried, a professor of neurosurgery and psychiatry at the University of California, Los Angeles, discussed the ethics of performing experiments on people with epilepsy during brain surgery. Most epileptic patients respond well to anticonvulsant drugs, but in the minority who do not, surgery is performed as a last resort. Using a technique pioneered by Wilder Penfield in the 1930s, surgeons can use electrodes to identify and remove the brain tissue producing the seizures while the patient is fully conscious.

After placing the electrodes onto the brain surface, the surgeon has to wait, sometimes for many days, for the patient to have a seizure. This provides the rare opportunity to study the brain directly, and Fried, who also directs UCLA's Adult Epilepsy Surgery Program, is one of the pioneers of taking single cell recordings from human brain cells under these conditions.

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Meet a Member

Laura Yenisa Cabrera

Dr. Cabrera is a Postdoctoral Research Fellow at the National Core for Neuroethics at the University of British Columbia (UBC) where she is working on projects that explore the attitudes of the general public regarding cognitive enhancement as well as brain stimulation technologies. She received a BSc in Electrical and Communication Engineering from the Instituto Tecnológico de Estudios Superiores de Monterrey (ITESM) in Mexico City, a MA in Applied Ethics from Linköping University in Sweden, and a PhD in Applied Ethics from Charles Sturt University in Australia. The topic of her PhD was "The Role of Nano and Neurotechnology and the need for a different enhancement paradigm". Her current research focuses on neuroethics as well as ethical issues around human enhancement and emergent technologies.

Where were you born?
I was born in Mexico city and am 31 years old.

Where were you educated and what did you study?
I received my PhD in Applied Ethics from Charles Sturt University (Australia). I also hold a Master in Applied Ethics from Linkoping University (Sweden), and a Bachelor in Electrical and Communication Engineering at the Instituto Tecnologico de Estudios Superiores de Monterrey (ITESM), Mexico city campus.

Where do you live now?
I currently live in Vancouver, Canada.

What languages do you speak?
I speak English, but Spanish is my mother tongue. I also have some knowledge of French and Swedish.

What initially drew you to Neuroethics and when?
From a very young age I developed an interest in the brain as well as in ethics. The latter I started pursuing more formally when I changed my career path from engineering to applied ethics, nonetheless I kept an emphasis on technology as I wanted to better understand how technology impacts society and the individual. In the case of Neuroethics, it was not until I was undertaking my PhD that I had the opportunity to attend the 2010 Penn NeuroBoot camp, and it was clear to me that I wanted to pursue a career in Neuroethics. Around this time I also got involved in reviewing Dr. Martha Farah's recently released book on *Neuroethics: an introduction with readings* for metapsychology Online. These experiences shape my decision to include neurotechnology in my PhD dissertation, which ended up focusing on ethical issues of human enhancement brought forward by nanotechnology and neurotechnology. The end of my PhD was the beginning of a research path that I wanted to keep focused on Neuroethics. Since then my research has touched in various issues such as human enhancement, neurotechnologies, the self, personhood, medicalization and issues in the intersection of neuroscience, ethics and law.

How did you get involved with the International Neuroethics Society?
During one session of the NeuroBoot camp Dr. Martha Farah and Dr. Paul Root Wolpe, talked about the INS and encouraged us to become members. However, it was not until I joined the National Core for Neuroethics in 2012 as a visiting postdoctoral research fellowship that Dr. Judy Illes and Dr. Peter Reiner encouraged me again to become a member. Since then I have been a member and met many INS members in conferences and seminars. Although for a variety of reasons I have not had the opportunity to attend an INS meeting (even when I have had posters with my colleagues presented), for me the INS is a great platform in which people from around the world with a passion for Neuroethics can meet, discuss, and engage in common projects, all of which enables the field of neuroethics to continue flourishing. I am also a member of the NeuroEthics Women Leaders network, and during 2013 helped organize a spring/summer Neuroethics school with Dr. Markus Christen.

What area of Neuroethics interests you the most?
It is really hard to pick one, there are so many areas that I find fascinating. However, if I have to pick one I would say issues around the use of neurotechnologies for non-medical purposes (a.k.a human enhancement). This interest of mine cuts across so many different issues, including wellbeing, medicalization, issues around the self and identity, people's (mis)understanding of neurotechnologies (in particular brain stimulation technologies like DBS, tDCS and TMS), and people's fears and enthusiasms around neurotechnolgies. Another area of Neuroethics that I have acquired a particular interest in the past years is experimental Neuroethics, an approach that I have had the opportunity to immerse myself in as a postdoctoral fellow at the National Core for Neuroethics, exploring issues around neurotechnologies and public perceptions.

What projects are you currently involved in?
Currently I am involved in two different Neuroethics projects. The first one is with Dr. Reiner and it focuses on cognitive enhancement and public perceptions. In particular we make use of experimental Neuroethics to gather data around morally salient issues connected to neuro-enhancement and public perceptions. My second main project is under Dr. Illes' research group and focuses on issues of medicalization, Alzheimer disease and First Nation groups. This project is the first Neuroethics project that I am involved in with a cross-cultural flavor to it, which is an aspect I would like to include more in my future research, in particular in connection to Spanish-speaking communities.

Where do you see the future of neuroethics heading in the next five years?
With two main big brain-driven initiatives taking place both in Europe and in North America, I see the field of Neuroethics expanding more to clinical and research areas. I also see the field as opening up beyond issues connected to humans to an inclusion of a more personhood oriented research agenda. As more members of the public engage in DIY undertakings with new neurotechnologies and as new neurointerventions expand to different areas of application, issues of safety, peer-pressure, and more importantly a better understanding of the reasons why people holding certain views in relation to certain neurointerventions are likely to keep being a main part of the field.

I would like to see Neuroethics expand to other countries as well as to see more collaboration with different university departments in the next couple of years. In other words, that it becomes a truly international, interdisciplinary and multidisciplinary endeavor.

What advice would you give to someone looking to break into the field of neuroethics?
While at times it might seem a rough path to walk, there are so many opportunities. First I would suggest keep up to date with the literature on your particular areas of interest within Neuroethics. Get involved with the INS or other networks related to Neuroethics. Write about your interests in Neuroethics, whether as a blog entry, a book review, or an essay. Attend and help organize events connected to Neuroethics. And finally, I would suggest surrounding yourself with more senior Neuroethics researchers that can mentor you on your own career path. I have been really lucky having Dr. Farah, Dr. Illes, and Dr. Reiner among others as key pillars in my academic development in Neuroethics.

What was the last country you visited and why?
Mexico. I presented a paper on human-animal neuro chimeras at the International Association for Bioethics (IAB) Meeting. I was especially pleased to do this as the IAB was identified in last year's Neuroethics Summit meeting as an important conference expanding our visibility. I was also working to find collaborators in my home country, since it has been a couple of years since I left and I would like to start developing the field there.

Do you have a favorite quotation?
What does not kill you makes you stronger.

Attending a meeting?

We want to hear about it!

There are lots of meetings coming up where neuroethics will be discussed - check the calendar on the INS website for some of them! Your fellow INS members will be interested in hearing about talks and presentations you've seen. So please write a short (100-200 word) report on the neuroethics scene at your favorite conferences and send it to us. We'll publish it in the next newsletter under your byline.

Presidential Commission Submission by the INS

In 2014, the Presidential Commission for the Study of Bioethical Issues, which advises the President of the United States on bioethical issues arising from advances in biomedicine and related areas of science and technology, asked for public comment on the ethical considerations of neuroscience research and the application of neuroscience research findings. In response, the INS listed the top 12 areas of importance for consideration by the Commission and detailed the top five important areas, which were chosen due to their rapid advancement and the immediate need for more government and public consideration of the ethical impact on society.

There has been an explosion of important and innovative neuroscientific technologies in recent years which has driven discoveries of greater visualization and understanding of the brain in health and disease. These techniques can be applied to understanding and promoting brain health and to novel, more effective treatments for brain disorders and brain injury. Similar to any novel advances in technology and innovation, techniques can be used to benefit society, but there are also concerns in regard to harms, which need careful consideration and evaluation in order to ensure that the benefits to society greatly outweigh the risks.

With this in mind, INS detailed some of the specific components within each general focus area it lists that are ripe for analysis. The Human Brain Projects, for example, are 10-year projects financed by tax-payer dollars. While there is some focus on neuroethics, the projects need to specifically examine transparency, consent, safety, privacy, security, and secondary findings, in addition to other neuroethical topics. Furthermore, human enhancement and neurotechnolgy are "hot topics" because the long-term safety and efficacy of interventions are lacking definitive evidence and they may also impact social justice. Responsibility, moral agency, and the law are key to consider as there is great potential for scientific breakthroughs to influence the way our society places blame and the way the judicial system operates. Lastly, mental health and brain disorders offer a wide array of subtopics to be studied at greater depth, which are significant because brain health is every bit as important as physical health.

INS Recommends the following areas of focus for the Presidential Commission for the Study of Bioethical Issues:

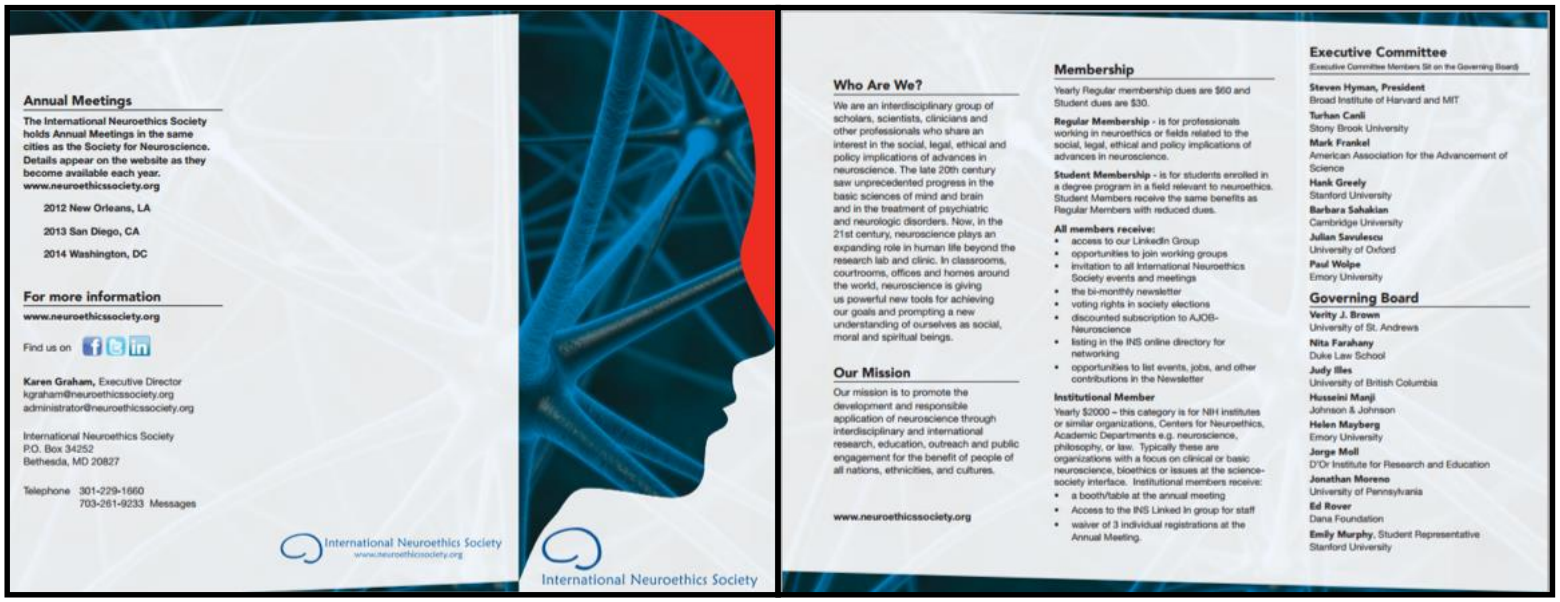
1. Human Brain Projects (USA and EU)
2. Human Enhancement
3. Neurotechnology
4. Responsibility, moral agency and the law
5. Mental health and brain disorders
6. Invasive techniques for treatment of brain disorders
7. Decoding mental states and decision making
8. Special issues of children and adolescents
9. The Business of Neuroscience and the Neuroscience of Business
10. Neuroscience, biologics and psychopharmacology in the context of the military
11. Morality and Social Cognition
12. Brain injury and vegetative state, disorders of consciousness

Presidential Commission *for the* Study of Bioethical Issues

The piece referenced was published in the Journal of Law and the Biosciences, http://jlb.oxfordjournals.org/content/early/2014/07/24/jlb.lsu014.full?keytype=ref&ijkey=vc2BwKLwChZJDUM

We're looking for an update and we need your help!

INS is changing its look and we want your input on how we can improve our brochure. We will be updating the Annual Meeting and the Executive Committee and Governing Board information listed below, but are looking to our membership for ideas on style and other content. The brochure is sent to other organization's meetings and to events where an "INS friend" or board member is speaking. It is a recruitment tool for new members. If your style, format, suggestion is chosen, **you will receive a free one-year membership to the INS**. Don't hesitate to send in ideas. You may enter more than once. Suggestions should be sent to kgraham@neuroethicssociety.org"



Annual Meetings

The International Neuroethics Society holds Annual Meetings in the same cities as the Society for Neuroscience. Details appear on the website as they become available each year.
www.neuroethicssociety.org

2012 New Orleans, LA

2013 San Diego, CA

2014 Washington, DC

For more information

www.neuroethicssociety.org

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International Neuroethics Society

Who Are We?

We are an interdisciplinary group of scholars, scientists, clinicians and other professionals who share an interest in the social, legal, ethical and policy implications of advances in neuroscience. The late 20th century saw unprecedented progress in the basic sciences of mind and brain and in the treatment of psychiatric and neurologic disorders. Now, in the 21st century, neuroscience plays an expanding role in human life beyond the research lab and clinic. In classrooms, courtrooms, offices and homes around the world, neuroscience is giving us powerful new tools for achieving our goals and prompting a new understanding of ourselves as social, moral and spiritual beings.

Our Mission

Our mission is to promote the development and responsible application of neuroscience through interdisciplinary and international research, education, outreach and public engagement for the benefit of people of all nations, ethnicities, and cultures.

www.neuroethicssociety.org

Membership

Yearly Regular membership dues are $60 and Student dues are $30.

Regular Membership - is for professionals working in neuroethics or fields related to the social, legal, ethical and policy implications of advances in neuroscience.

Student Membership - is for students enrolled in a degree program in a field relevant to neuroethics. Student Members receive the same benefits as Regular Members with reduced dues.

All members receive:

- access to our LinkedIn Group
- opportunities to join working groups
- invitation to all International Neuroethics Society events and meetings
- the bi-monthly newsletter
- voting rights in society elections
- discounted subscription to AJOB-Neuroscience
- listing in the INS online directory for networking
- opportunities to list events, jobs, and other contributions in the Newsletter

Institutional Member

Yearly $2000 – this category is for NIH institutes or similar organizations, Centers for Neuroethics, Academic Departments e.g. neuroscience, philosophy, or law. Typically these are organizations with a focus on clinical or basic neuroscience, bioethics or issues at the science-society interface. Institutional members receive:

- a booth/table at the annual meeting
- Access to the INS Linked In group for staff
- waiver of 3 individual registrations at the Annual Meeting.

Executive Committee

(Executive Committee Members Sit on the Governing Board)

Steven Hyman, President
Broad Institute of Harvard and MIT
Turhan Canli
Stony Brook University
Mark Frankel
American Association for the Advancement of Science
Hank Greely
Stanford University
Barbara Sahakian
Cambridge University
Julian Savulescu
University of Oxford
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Jonathan Moreno
University of Pennsylvania
Ed Rover
Dana Foundation
Emily Murphy, Student Representative
Stanford University

NeuroGenderings III Conference Recap

By Tabea Cornel

From May 8–10, 2014, more than a hundred students and scholars from the neurosciences, social sciences, and the humanities, convened at the University of Lausanne, Switzerland, for the NeuroGenderings III conference. The organizers Cynthia Kraus (University of Lausanne) and Anelis Kaiser (University of Bern) titled this meeting the "1st international Dissensus Conference on brain and gender." 14 papers by scholars at different career stages, mainly from Europe and the US, provided examples of successful sex/gender-sensitive brain research and addressed problematic neuroscientific concepts and practices from feminist and queer perspectives. The four keynote speakers illustrate the diversity of approaches: Rebecca Jordan-Young (Women's, Gender & Sexuality Studies, Barnard College), Gillian Einstein (Social & Behavioural Health Sciences, University of Toronto), Georgina Rippon (Psychology, Aston University), and Anne Fausto-Sterling (Molecular Biology, Cell Biology & Biochemistry and Gender Studies, Brown University). Papers were selected by the NeuroGenderings Network, a non-institutionalized interdisciplinary group of scholars, which was founded in 2010 to offer a platform for exchanging best practice models for and reservations against sex/gender research in the neuroscientific realm. All attendees consented that dissenting from unquestioned concepts and practices in brain research can benefit both our neuroscientific knowledge and our social life.

INS at Fens *(Continued)*

"We are very privileged [to be able to do this], but it raises serious ethical issues," said Fried. Surgery is perfectly justified, he explained, but performing experiments is not-while it may provide some insight into how the brain works, it is of no benefit whatsoever to the patient.

All members of Fried's neurosurgery program are required to examine and adhere to the Belmont Report, which was published in 1979, and which sets out ethical principles and guidelines for the protection of study participants. The three principles outlined in the report are:

1. Respect: In all cases, researchers must protect patients' autonomy, treat them with the utmost courtesy and respect, and only enroll them in such studies after informed consent;
2. Beneficence: Researchers must maximise the benefits of their experiments, while at the same time avoiding at all costs causing harm to the participants; and,
3. Justice: Researchers must ensure that their experiments are designed well and that their procedures are safe, non-exploitative, and administered fairly.

"We prolong the operative time and we may cause patient discomfort and injury to the brain tissue, so we have a special responsibility to do good science and ask good questions," says Fried, "but this is a very delicate and unique situation, and there are no obvious answers to these ethical questions."

Petra Huppi, director of the Division of Child Development and Growth at the University of Geneva, uses magnetic resonance imaging to understand developmental brain disorders, particularly in pre-term infants, who are at far higher risk of such disorders than are full-term infants.

The number of pre-term infants born each year is rising in most countries, and although improvements in medicine have led to improved outcomes and better quality of life for many, those treating them still face difficult ethical questions. "Pediatricians are committed to promoting childrens' health, treating their illnesses, and saving their lives," said Huppi, "but sometimes we are forced to wrestle with dreadful choices."

Should they, for example, save a very premature infant's life, despite the possibility that the child will develop severe neurological impairments? "It's our professional responsibility to face these difficult questions," said Huppi. "How can we honour these responsibilities, and how can imaging technologies help us in taking them up?"

Head ultrasound is an imaging technique that can reveal signs of brain haemorrhage in pre-term infants. Following its introduction in the 1970s, withdrawal of life support was recommended for pre-terms whose ultrasound scans showed signs of brain hemorrhage, and during the 1980s and 90s, care was withdrawn from between 35% and 80% of such infants.

"We were playing God," says Huppi. "We now know that head ultrasound only has a positive predictive value of 48%, and that a large number of babies with head ultrasound abnormalities have normal outcomes." Furthermore, the brain is far more resilient than we once thought it was, and can often compensate for damage via its structural and functional plasticity, especially with early medical and social interventions.

Methods such as diffusion tensor imaging can now be used to visualise brain connectivity in pre-term infants, and to track the changes in connectivity that occur as a result of interventions. They can therefore provide more accurate prognoses for pre-term infants than traditional ultrasound.
"We've convincingly shown that the brain is plastic using these imaging methodologies, and we can better evaluate the environmental factors that can help us shape brain development," said Huppi. "When we intervene with an enriched care program we can have a positive effect on brain development and cognitive performance, and these effects last up to school age."

"The early years have the highest yield for effects on cognitive development, and enriched environments in the first years of life can greatly improve the cognitive capacities of pre-term infants," she added. "We'd really like to get to the point when the quality of life for pre-term infants is the same for others."

See more at:
http://www.dana.org/News/How_Far_Should_Brain_Researchers_Go_/

2014 IAB Meeting Report by Laura Cabrera

Laura Cabrera attended the 12th World Congress of Bioethics in Mexico City on June 25-28 and provides a look at what went on. Laura handed out Membership and Annual Meeting information about the INS.

Neuroethics discussions within the 12th World Congress of Bioethics

Laura Y. Cabrera, National Core for Neuroethics, University of British Columbia Vancouver, BC CANADA

On June 25-28, 2014, the National Bioethics Commission of Mexico hosted the 12th World Congress of Bioethics, one of the largest single meetings focused on bioethics in the world. The Congress is held every two years and convened by the International Association of Bioethics (IAB), a global organization with networks of experts. The focus of the congress has been the discussion of original findings and new theoretical perspectives surrounding the ethical issues that emerge from the advances of science and technology around the world. The topic of this year's congress was 'Bioethics in a Globalized World: Science, Society and Individual'.

The congress welcomed stakeholders from various backgrounds and nationalities, hosting over 1200 attendees from 72 different countries. Given that it was held in Mexico, a number of presentation were held in Spanish (with simultaneous translation), which enabled a nice flow in the conversation, and a truly international feeling to the Congress.

While previous congresses have touched upon issues connected to neuroethics, there is room still for more active engagement from the neuroethics community in the bioethics congress series. Neuroethics and bioethics overlapped in many issues that were discussed in the different sessions. From issues connected to enhancement, incidental findings, uses of new neurotechnologies and advances in neuroscience to issues connected to wellbeing, the impact of our environments in mental health, addiction and issues connected to personhood.

The Congress included 30 keynote speeches (8 plenary sessions), 50 symposia, 270 and 77 poster presentations. Throughout the conference there was ample space to engage in conversations and continue discussion.

Among the congress keynote speakers were:

- Dr. Tom Beauchamp, why we need the system of research ethics we currently have and how it can be improved;
- Dr. Norman Daniels, issues around how to respond to concerns about the judicialization of health;
- Dr. Christine Grady, US Presidential Commission for the Study of Bioethical Issues and compensation for research related injury;
- Dr. Jonathan D. Moreno, 'Mind wars: brain science and the military in the 21st century'; and
- Dr. John Harris, mind reading, arguing that current brain imaging technology is not even close to being a good mind reading tool.

Neuroethics was also very much present during the last day of the congress in two sessions ran by the Iberoamerican Network, which were focused on 'Neuroethics and Drugs: the civil state and health for drugs of ritual and recreational use and its abuse'. Given the situation Mexico finds itself in regarding drug use and related crime, it was a very interesting conversation between the panelists and the participants, in which a variety of different views and perspectives came forward. It was interesting to hear Dr. Francisco Pellicer (Instituto Nacional de Psiquiatria Ramon de la Fuente) point out that the question is no longer whether we should decriminalize drugs, but rather how it can be done. Questions were asked about the pressure to give certain drugs to terminal patients when there is the risk that they might become addicted, whether drug users should be punished or treated, the role that the social environment might have, and why and how people use certain drugs.

Another interesting neuroethics work was a poster by Jorge Alberto Alvarez-Diaz on 'Neuroethics and neurosciences in (for?) developing countries'. As a Mexican it was very interesting for me to get a sense of what the state of neuroethics is in Mexico and Latin America. I certainly hope that as part of the rich and interesting conversations that took place throughout the conference, future links can be established to keep moving the neuroethical discussion forward. In particular, a discussion that acknowledges the different cultural, political and economical backgrounds that might make some issues more salient than others and in which diverse strategies might be necessary in different parts of the world, would be useful.

The next World Congress of Bioethics will be held in Edinburgh and the topic will be 'Individuals, public interest and public goods: What is the contribution of bioethics?' Hopefully because we have two years notice, the neuroethics community can contribute even more work focused on neuroethics for the 13th World Congress of Bioethics.

What Are INS Members Doing?

Each issue, we publish short updates about what our members are engaged in. It might include talks, papers, classes, books, or anything else our diverse membership is up to. All members are free to submit information about themselves or others to adminstrator@neuroethicssociety.org. Blurbs should be 50 words or less, to be published on approval.

Mihai Avram and **James Giordano** have published the open peer commentary: "Neuroethics: Some things old, some things new, some things borrowed...and to do", in *AJOB-Neuroscience* 5(4): 1-3(2014).

Shelly Benjaminy, Julie Robillard and other trainees and researchers, and at The University of British Columbia's National Core for Neuroethics were featured in *Science* in the section called NextGen Voices. See the piece at: http://www.sciencemag.org/content/345/6192/24/suppl/DC1

Timothy Brindley and **James Giordano** have published the paper:. "International standards for intellectual property protection of neuroscience and neurotechnology: Neuroethical, legal and social (NELS) considerations in light of globalization" in the *Stanford Journal of Law Science and Policy* 7:33 (2014).

Liana Buniak, Martina Darragh, and **James Giordano** have published the first of a four-part ten-year bibliography of neuroethics, entitled: " A four part working bibliography of neuroethics: Part 1: Overviews and reviews – defining and describing the field and its practices" in *Philosophy, Ethics, and Humanities in Medicine* 9 (9); (2014). Subsequent parts so the bibliography addressing 1) the neuroscience of moral cognition; (2) specific ethical issues fostered by neuroscience, and (3) international neuroethics, will follow through mid-winter 2015.

Martha Farah's article, "Brain Images, Babies, and Bathwater: Critiquing Critiques of Functional Neuroimaging," appeared in the Hastings Center Report: http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1002/hast.295/pdf.

Nita Farahany is a keynote presenter at the Atlanta Neuroethics Symposium. The primary theme of this conference will focus on ethical and regulatory dilemmas that arise from the use of direct brain interventions. Visit http://atlneuroethics.org for more information on conference themes, headlined speakers and registration.

James Giordano's new book, *Neurotechnology in National Security and Defense: Practical Considerations, Neuroethical Concerns*, has just been published by CRC Press. It contains a foreword by INS Board Member Jonathan Moreno, and is the second in Giordano's series for CRC, *Advances in Neurotechnology: Ethical, Legal, and Social Issues.*

James Giordano presented the lecture, "From the heuristics of neuroscience to a pragmatic animal neuroethics", and chaired the session on animal neuroethics featuring Thomas Buller, Benjamin Capps, Grant Gillette, and Jerome Yelnick, at the *Cambridge-Institut du Cerveau et de la Moelle Epiniere (ICM) Neuroethics Network Conference,* in Paris, France, on June 20, 2014.

Steve Hyman discussed "5 Ways The Brain Stymies Scientists And 5 New Tools To Crack It" on: http://commonhealth.wbur.org/2014/06/hyman-reasons-brains-stymie-scientists?utm_source=2014+June+newsletter&utm_campaign=June+2014+Newsletter&utm_medium=email

Judy Illes was quoted in the May 2014 issue of *Medical Ethics Advisor*, "Ethical considerations involving incidental findings"; *The Atlantic*, "The Ethics of Erasing Bad Memories," http://www.theatlantic.com/health/archive/2014/05/the-ethics-of-erasing-bad-memories/362110/; and *ScienceInsider*, "U.S. BRAIN Initiative Gets Ethical Advice", http://news.sciencemag.org/brain-behavior/2014/05/u.s.-brain-initiative-gets-ethical-advice

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What Are INS Members Doing? (*Continued*)

Judy Illes wrote an op ed that appeared in the *Vancouver Sun* on April 2, 2014, "Conference to explore challenges, opportunities of aging," http://www.vancouversun.com/health/Opinion+Conference+explore+challenges+opportunities+aging/9687132/story.html.

Judy Illes presented at "Stem Cell Talks: Ethical Issues and Challenges in Stem Cell Science," an event for high school seniors on May 16, 2014 in Vancouver, BC, http://www.explorecuriocity.org/Community/Symposia/StemCellTalks/Vancouver.aspx and "Ethics, Society and the Brain" on March 25, 2014 at University of North Carolina.

Owen D. Jones, Chancellor's Professor of Law and Professor of Biological Sciences at Vanderbilt University, and Director of the MacArthur Foundation Research Network on Law and Neuroscience, was awarded Vanderbilt's 2014 Joe B. Wyatt Distinguished University Professor Award. The award goes to one faculty member of the university, annually, for "accomplishments that span multiple academic disciplines." The announcement is here: http://news.vanderbilt.edu/2014/04/fa-awards-2/

Helen Mayberg had her article, "Neuroimaging and Psychiatry: The Long Road from Bench to Bedside," published in the Hastings Center Report: http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1002/hast.296/pdf.

Jorge Moll and his team wrote a paper on modulating neural patterns associated with affiliative emotions using fMRI neurofeedback. Check out the full article here: http://www.plosone.org/article/info%3Adoi%2F10.1371%2Fjournal.pone.0097343

Amanda Pustilnik is a member of the Pain & Suffering Working Group, which is part of the Working Groups on Juvenile Justice and Pain & Suffering supported by The Center for Law, Brain & Behavior. Learn more by visiting http://clbb.mgh.harvard.edu/clbb-to-lead-pain-juvenile-justice-interest-groups/?utm_source=2014+May+newsletter+-+final+RED&utm_campaign=May+2014+Newsletter&utm_medium=email.

Amanda Pustilnik, will be the Project on Law and Applied Neuroscience's first fellow, in 2014-2015, focusing on scholarship on the role of pain in legal domains. Learn more: http://clbb.mgh.harvard.edu/clbb-and-harvard-law-school-announce-joint-venture-in-law-and-neuroscience-pain-fellow/?utm_source=2014+April+newsletter&utm_campaign=April+2014+Newsletter&utm_medium=email

Barbara Sahakian is a Finalist under Health and Medicine in the 2014 World Technology Awards. The Summit and Awards ceremony will be held on November 13 and 14 in New York City. For more details on the summit, please visit: http://www.wtn.net/summit-2014/

INS President, **Barbara Sahakian**, contributed to *The New York Times* article, "European Students' Use of 'Smart Drugs' Is Said to Rise". See the full article at: http://www.nytimes.com/2014/07/07/world/europe/european-students-use-of-smart-drugs-is-said-to-rise.

Remember to register for the
2014 INS Annual Meeting
in Washington, DC
on November 13-14
by September 15 for a discounted rate!

Space is limited, so register now!

Neuroethics Event Calendar

Share your events with us at
administrator@neuroethicssociety.org.

September 12 – 14 *Neuro-Interventions and the Law: Regulating Human Mental Capacity* , Georgia State University. The primary theme of this conference will focus on ethical and regulatory dilemmas that arise from the use of direct brain interventions. Visit http://atlneuroethics.org/ for more information on conference themes, headlined speakers and registration.

October 8-9 *Emerging Ethical and Legal Challenges in Chronic Neurological Conditions*, Cleveland Convention Center. As part of the 23rd Annual International Epilepsy Symposia, The care of patients with serious chronic neurological conditions poses difficult ethical and legal dilemmas that extend beyond the acute care setting. This conference provides an opportunity for participants to engage in discussions regarding continuously emerging and profound legal and ethical challenges. For more information, visit http://www.clevelandclinicmeded.com/live/courses/epilepsy/default.asp

October 10 *New Frontiers in the Neurobiology of Mental Illness*, The New York Academy of Sciences. Explore the translation of neuroscientific breakthroughs into therapies for mental illnesses such as schizophrenia, depression, fear and anxiety disorders, and autism. See more at: http://www.dana.org/events.aspx#sthash.kJNiMeGa.dpuf

October 10-11 *The Center for Cognition and Neuroethics 1st Annual Conference on: Free Will*, Insight Institute of Neurosurgery & Neuroscience, Flint, MI. We have an intuitive sense of ourselves as free agents, capable of effectively controlling ourselves and altering the external world. We typically view ourselves as the cause of our actions, our thoughts, and our decisions. Yet, what reasons do we have to believe that we are free, or that at any moment we have the capacity to be free? The more we learn from physics, neurosciences, biology, medicine and psychology about how we and the world operate, the more it seems there is no room for a genuinely free will.
Find out more here: http://www.cognethic.org/conference_pro_2014.html

October 30 *Implicit Moral Attitudes*, 2014 Wellcome Lecture in Neuroethics, University of Oxford. For more information, visit http://www.neuroethics.ox.ac.uk/events

October 30 – November 2 *The Mind & Life Institute's International Symposium for Contemplative Studies*, Boston, MA. The symposium brings together scientists, scholars, artists, and contemplatives to explore clinical science, philosophy, humanities, education, economics, the arts, and other domains. These distinct, though overlapping, fields of research and scholarship focus on advancing our understanding of the human mind and how training the mind through contemplative practices can lead to valuable insights that promote a reduction in suffering, enhanced health and cognitive/emotional functioning, and increased social harmony. It has become clear that a multidisciplinary integrative approach is critical for understanding the mind and its effects on health, ethical behavior, and society at large. The International Symposium seeks to encourage and help shape a cohesive interdisciplinary field of contemplative studies in which basic and applied science, scholarship, education, the arts, and contemplative traditions collaboratively develop an integrated way of knowing. See http://www.iscs2014.org/ for more information.

November 13-14 *International Neuroethics Society Annual Meeting*, American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) building, Washington, DC. This meeting is an official satellite of the Society for Neuroscience (SfN) meeting which begins on November 15. Register here: http://www.neuroethicssociety.org/2014-annual-meeting-registration

Social Media

Join the INS LinkedIn Group!

Would you like to access news, papers, meeting announcements, and job openings with a neuroethics focus, selected just for INS members? Then join the INS LinkedIn group! It is a benefit of your membership. You can also react to the postings and put up your own papers and announcements. To join, search for International Neuroethics Society on LinkedIn

Follow INS on Twitter at @neuroethicsinfo!

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International Neuroethics Society

INS Newsletter
Chelsea Ott and Elyssa Pedote, Editors
www.neuroethicssociety.org

Our mission is to promote the development and responsible application of neuroscience through interdisciplinary and international research, education, outreach and public engagement for the benefit of people of all nations, ethnicities, and cultures. Questions and comments about the International Neuroethics Society should be directed to Karen Graham, Executive Director, kgraham@neuroethicssociety.org