

# Neuroethics Society

www.neuroethicssociety.org — January, 2010

## Get ready for the 2010 Meeting

By Program Committee Chair, Turhan Canli

We look forward to welcoming you in Washington, D.C., on **May 10-11, 2010**, to the second meeting of the Neuroethics Society. As in 2008, we will ensure a good balance of intellectually exciting programming and plenty of social time, including **breakfasts, lunches, breaks, and a cash-bar reception** on opening day. We will again feature a **poster session** on the first day of the meeting, and will issue a call for submissions soon (all members are invited to present). A new feature of the meeting will be the scheduling of several concurrent **interactive workshops**. We are planning workshops on three topics: *Neuroethics and the Media*, *Teaching Neuroethics*, and *Genomic Imaging*. We are also planning a **movie night** with subsequent discussion on a neuroethics-related topic.

As in the first meeting, we will host an **open business meeting** during the lunch hour of the second day. There is much to discuss, and we want your input! Back by popular demand, we will have a session on **Funding, Updates, and FYIs**, which will bring us news on the latest neuroethics developments and funding opportunities from around the world.

With regard to scientific content, we will open the meeting with a panel on **Global Mental Health**. We will discuss mental health concerns across nations, and in special populations such as *child soldiers*. In **Engineering Brains**, we will discuss the scientific basis and neuroethics implications of technologies such as stem cell transplants and brain-directed genetic vectors designed to treat neurodegenerative disease or alter behavior. Our panel entitled **Human Exceptionalism?** will discuss the similarities and differences between humans and nonhuman animals as seen through the lens of neuroscience. Elaine Snell will speak on **Communicating Neuroethics**, illuminating the many ways in which researchers can now communicate their discoveries and insights to the public. For those who wish to obtain some hands-on experience afterwards, Elaine offers a workshop (see above). Toward the end of the meeting, we will be treated to a moderated discussion between our Society President, Steven Hyman, and Nora Volkow, the Director of the National Institute on Drug Abuse, on **Addiction Neuroethics**, which will touch on questions of personal responsibility and

agency in light of our current understanding of the neurobiological mechanisms of addiction and decision-making.

I look forward to seeing you in Washington next Spring!

*Turhan Canli, Chair,  
Program Committee*



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# Schedule for 2010 Neuroethics Society Meeting

Schedule is subject to further modifications. The latest version of the schedule can always be found online.

## Monday 5/10/2010

- 8:30-9:30 Breakfast Buffet and Poster Set-up
- 9:30-9:45 **Welcome and Opening Remarks** (Steve Hyman, Harvard University; and Richard Meserve, Carnegie Institution)
- 9:45-11:00 **Setting the Agenda for Global Brain Health and Neuroethics**  
Chair: Judy Illes (University of British Columbia, Canada)  
Speakers:  
Norman Sartorius (Association for the Improvement of Mental Health Programmes, Switzerland)  
Ilina Singh (London School of Economics, UK)  
Peter W. Singer (The Brookings Institution, USA)
- 11:00-11:20 Break
- 11:20-12:00 **Funding, Updates and FYIs**  
Includes funding presentations by Kathleen Michels (Fogarty International Center at the NIH, USA) and/or perhaps Pamela Collins (NIH Global Mental Health Program, USA), plus other updates and FYI's.
- 12:00-1:30 Lunch
- 1:30-2:45 **Engineering Brains**  
Chair: Turhan Canli (Stony Brook University, USA)  
Speakers:  
Elizabeth Simpson (University of British Columbia, Canada)  
Irv Weisman (Stanford University, USA)  
Ruth Faden (Johns Hopkins University, USA)
- 2:45-3:00 Break
- 3:00-5:00 **Poster Session**
- 5:00-6:00 Reception (Cash Bar)
- 6:15-7:45 **Movie (title TBA) & Discussion at the Dana Center (RSVP)**

## Tuesday 5/11/2010

- 8:30-9:30 Breakfast Buffet
- 9:30-9:45 **A Tribute to William Safire**
- 9:45-11:00 **Human Exceptionalism?**  
Chair: Martha Farah (University of Pennsylvania, USA)  
Speakers:  
Colin Allen (Indiana University, USA)  
David Edelman (The Neurosciences Institute, USA)  
Hilary Bok (Johns Hopkins University)  
Todd Preuss, Emory University
- 11:00-11:20 Break
- 11:20-12:00 **Communicating Neuroethics**  
Speaker: Elaine Snell (Snell Communications, UK)
- 12:00-1:30 **Lunch & Open Business Meeting**
- 1:30-3:30 **Concurrent Events (all free but RSVP needed):**
  1. Hands-on Workshop on Neuroethics & Media (Elaine Snell)
  2. Genomic Imaging (Turhan Canli)
  3. Teaching Neuroethics (Kevin Wilson, Gettysburg College)
- 3:30-3:50 Break
- 3:50-4:50 **Addiction Neuroethics**  
Moderator: Wayne Hall (University of Queensland, Australia)  
Discussants:  
Steven Hyman (Harvard, USA)  
Nora Volkow (NIDA, USA)
- 4:50-5:00 Closing Remarks

**Q:** What is the workshop on Teaching Neuroethics?

**A:** Chaired by Kevin Wilson of Gettysburg College, this session will offer concrete advice on teaching neuroethics, either as a course in its own right or as a unit in a course on neuroscience, philosophy or bioethics. Kevin will have a panel of professors there to share their experiences teaching neuroethics, including their approaches to different types of students (undergrads, grads, medical), syllabi, materials and activities.



Attendees at the first Neuroethics Society meeting.

## Meet the speakers....

Up until the meeting, we will be spotlighting speakers for the meeting. Here's the first set:



**Ruth R. Faden, Ph.D., M.P.H.** is the Philip Franklin Wagley Professor of Biomedical Ethics and Director of The Berman Institute of Bioethics at Johns Hopkins University. She is also a Senior Research Scholar at the Kennedy Institute of Ethics, Georgetown University. Dr. Faden is the author and editor of numerous books and articles on biomedical ethics and health policy including

*Social Justice: The Moral Foundations of Public Health and Health Policy* (with Madison Powers), *A History and Theory of Informed Consent* (with Tom L. Beauchamp), *AIDS, Women and the Next Generation* (Ruth Faden, Gail Geller and Madison Powers, eds.), *HIV, AIDS and Childbearing: Public Policy, Private Lives* (Ruth Faden and Nancy Kass, eds.). Dr. Faden is a member of the Institute of Medicine and a Fellow of the Hastings Center and the American Psychological Association. She has served on several national advisory committees and commissions, including the President's Advisory Committee on Human Radiation Experiments, which she chaired. Current research interests include bioethics and public policy, ethics and cellular engineering, ethics and bioterrorism, ethics, genetics and public policy, research ethics, and justice. Dr. Faden holds a BA from the University of Pennsylvania, a MA in General Studies in Humanities from the University of Chicago and a MPH and Ph.D. (Program in Attitudes and Behavior) from the University of California, Berkeley.



**Peter W. Singer** is the director of the 21st Century Defense Initiative and a senior fellow in Foreign Policy at Brookings. Singer's research focuses on three core issues: the future of war, current U.S. defense needs and future priorities, and the future of the U.S. defense system. Singer lectures frequently to U.S. military audiences

and is the author of several books and articles, including *Wired for War: The Robotics Revolution and Conflict in the 21st Century*. Singer was recently named one of the Top 100 Global Thinkers of 2009 by Foreign Policy magazine.

**Irving Weissman** directs Stanford University's Stem Cell Biology and Regenerative Medicine Institute in California. His laboratory was the first to identify and isolate blood-forming stem cells from mice. He has developed techniques to track haematopoietic stem cells and their progeny and used both to study the development of healthy blood and immune systems as well as the progression of malignancies like leukaemia. This summer, he became the seventh president of the International Society for Stem Cell Research (ISSCR).



**Iliana Singh** is Wellcome Trust University Lecturer in Bioethics and Society at the London School of Economics and Political Science. She received her doctorate in Human Development and Psychology from Harvard University in 2000. Until 2004, she was an affiliated lecturer in both the Department for History and Philosophy of Science and The Centre for Family Research at the University of Cambridge.

In 2006 Iliana received a Wellcome Trust University Award, which provided a permanent lectureship in the BIOS Centre/Sociology Department at the LSE, as well as funding for a 5 year research project. The research project is entitled VOICES: Voices on Identity, Childhood, Ethics and Stimulants: Children Join the Debate ([www.addingvoices.com](http://www.addingvoices.com)).

Iliana has a longstanding interest in the psycho-social and ethical implications of new biomedical technologies for children and the family. A new project on fMRI studies in child and adolescent psychiatry will investigate the social and ethical implications of young people's participation in three areas of fMRI research: anti-social behavior/juvenile delinquency, anorexia, and ADHD. The aim is to better understand young people's experiences of and motivations for participation in fMRI research; and to investigate how young people's exposure to imaging technology and brain-based explanatory narratives intersects with their conceptions of personal identity and agency, 'problem' behaviors, and treatment acceptability. Other active research areas include global neuroethics; neuroenhancement; and culture and history of biomedical innovation in psychiatry.

Iliana is Co-Editor, with Nikolas Rose (LSE) and Adele Clarke (UCSF), of the journal *BioSocieties* ([www.journals.cambridge.org/jid\\_BIO](http://www.journals.cambridge.org/jid_BIO)).



## NS members taking the lead on enhancement policy

Brain enhancement using neuropsychiatric drugs is a growing trend, which has been the focus of much teaching, writing and discussion in neuroethics. But what to do about it? This is a question that several Neuroethics Society members have recently stepped up to answer. The Ethics, Law and Humanities Committee of the American Academy of Neurology, led by NS member Dan Larriviere, recently published a report entitled Responding to requests from adult patients for neuroenhancements in the journal *Neurology*. Quebec's Commission de l'éthique de la science et de la technologie has also just released a Position statement: Psychotropic Drugs and Expanded Uses, authored with the participation of NS member Eric Racine. NS member Maartje Schermer and colleagues published *The Future of Psychopharmacological Enhancements: Expectations and Policies* in the journal *Neuroethics* and NS members Hank Greely, Barbara Sahakian, Michael Gazzaniga and Martha Farah offered policy suggestions in the paper *Toward responsible use of cognitive-enhancing drugs by the healthy* in *Nature*. Barbara Sahakian is currently working with the British Home Office's Advisory Council on the Misuse of Drugs to develop recommendations on cognitive enhancers. The different groups and reports address different aspects of the phenomenon of cognitive enhancement, and differ in their willingness to allow frank enhancement, but overall they signify a shift in neuroethics from pure ethical analysis to an interest in real world policy.



Dan Larriviere

### Conference Report: Neuroethics at the 2009 Society for Neuroscience meeting.

Curtis Bell, PhD, Oregon Health and Science University.

The overall level of energy around the issue of Neuroethics was high this year at the 2009 Society for Neuroscience in Chicago. The high energy was very apparent at both a Social Issues Roundtable and a Neuroethics social, but less apparent at the Neuroethics poster session.

The Roundtable was on the subject of “Engaging the public on ethical, legal and social implications of Neuroscience research”. The large conference room was packed and many questioners lined up after the presentations. The session was chaired by Alan Leshner, PhD, of AAAS who discussed the need for better communication between Neuroscientists and society. Other presentations included ones by: Patricia Churchland, PhD, of the University of California at San Diego on accountability in the age of Neuroscience; Barbara Sahakian, PhD, of the University of Cambridge on cognitive enhancement; Jonathan Moreno, PhD, of the University of Pennsylvania on past and present applications of Neuroscience to war; and Hank Greely, JD, on communication about Neuroethical issues with the public.



Alan Leshner, AAAS, chaired the roundtable

The Neuroethics social was also well attended. The small room was packed. The evening began with announcements about various programs and initiatives in Neuroethics. The announcements were followed by a “debate” on the proposition as to whether brain imaging is already capable of (something worthy of the term) ‘mind reading’. John-Dylan Haynes, PhD, of the Max Planck Institute for Human Cognitive and Brain Sciences in Berlin argued that emotions, memories, intentions, and mental images can be at least partially read out now and that this raises issues that must be faced. Russell Poldrak, PhD, from the University of Texas in Austin argued that a “universal mind reading machine” would not be possible because of individual variability and because of the intrinsic ability of language to generate sentences that have never been previously thought.

## International Neuroethics Network (INN) Updates

Yemi Banjo, Incoming INN Manager



**THE INN WELCOMES OUR MOST RECENT MEMBER, PD DR. ELIZABETH HILDT, COUNTRY REPRESENTATIVE FOR GERMANY.**

### BRIEF PROFILE

PD Dr. Elisabeth Hildt is a researcher in the Department of Philosophy and at the Research Focus on Interdisciplinary Neurosciences of the University of Mainz, Germany. She is a member of the Canadian-German research project "Normality, Normalization and Enhancement in the Neurosciences" and heads a neuroethics research group within the European research project "Tools for Brain-Computer Interaction (TOBI)."

After obtaining her diploma in biochemistry she became a member of the DFG-funded postgraduate programme "Ethics in the Sciences" at the University of Tuebingen. In 1995 she received her PhD, with a thesis focusing on the medical, philosophical and ethical issues in neural tissue transplantations. Following a few years as a post-doctoral researcher in the field of biomedical ethics in Munich at the Interdisciplinary Institute TTN and at the Institute of Medical Psychology at the Ludwig-Maximilians-University of Munich, she became an assistant professor and the Chair for Ethics in the Life Sciences, University of Tuebingen (2002-2008). Dr. Hildt attained habilitation in 2005 with a postdoctoral thesis on autonomy issues in biomedical ethics.

The focus of her current research is on theory and ethics in the life sciences, with particular interests in neurophilosophy, neuroethics and human genetics.

### Recent publications:

#### Articles:

- Hildt, E.: "Predictive genetic testing, autonomy and responsibility for future health," *Medicine Studies* 1(2), 2009, 143-153.
- Hildt, E.: "Ethical challenges in cell-based interventions for neurological conditions: Some lessons to be learnt from clinical transplantation trials in patients with Parkinson's disease," *American Journal of Bioethics* 9(5), 2009, 37-38.

- Hildt, E.: "Living longer: age retardation and autonomy," *Medicine, Health Care and Philosophy* 12(2), 2009, 179-185.

#### Book edited:

- Hildt, E. & Engels, E.-M.: *Der implantierte Mensch – Therapie und Enhancement im Gehirn*, Karl Alber Verlag: Freiburg, 2009.

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Elisabeth Hildt

### UPDATES

#### INN Breakfast Report

The 5<sup>th</sup> annual INN breakfast held on Sunday October 18<sup>th</sup>, 2009 in Chicago, Illinois was a huge success. The discussion was rich, and many ideas were put forward to continue to promote the goals of the INN and further the field of Neuroethics in general. Some of the action items that our executive members are currently working on include: the proposal of a name change of the "Neuroethics Society" to the "International Neuroethics Society" in order to promote the Society's role globally, and rotating the Neuroethics Society meeting through member countries. Motions will be put forward for these proposals at the May annual meeting of the Society. Other action items are: fund-raising; raising support for small travel grants; developing fellowship opportunities for graduate training in neuroethics; proposing and developing guidelines for neuro and ethics content for IBRO schools; actively encouraging more members from non-English speaking countries to join the Society; exploring the possibility of a special issue of *AJOB-Neuroscience* on global neuroethics issues; and communicating with

the Institutes of Neurosciences, Mental Health, and Addictions (INMHA) about how to involve higher-level politicians in neuroethics issues, especially related to mental health and stigma issues.

We will be creating an "Ask the Expert" link/page on the INN website for advice on how to set up neuroethics programs, curricula, and other initiatives. **We are currently seeking volunteers who would kindly serve as our experts. If you would like to be added to our list of experts, please send me an email at [ocbanjo@interchange.ubc.ca](mailto:ocbanjo@interchange.ubc.ca).**

An initiative is also underway for an "Online chat forum with the Author" when a major new neuroethics piece is published, also to be housed on the INN site. We welcome your ideas on this as well as news about your publication and availability!

We sincerely thank all those who were in attendance at the meeting. For the detailed minutes of the meeting and country reports, please visit the INN page and click on the "resources" tab, or you may follow this direct link: [http://www.neuroethics.ubc.ca/National\\_Core\\_for\\_Neuroethics/INN\\_Resources.html](http://www.neuroethics.ubc.ca/National_Core_for_Neuroethics/INN_Resources.html)

## Mexico establishes Neuroethics Commission headed by NS Member Moises Rozanes

Dr. Rozanes shares this news:

On November 15, during the First Meeting of the National College of Psychiatrists\_ EL COLEGIO NACIONAL DE PSIQUIATRAS, A. C., held in Acapulco, Gro.. I was assigned by consensus to coordinate the first "NEUROETHICS COMMISSION", which is a new auxiliary commission after my proposal.

I hope that this challenge will help to spread knowledge, interest and research in our discipline.

Our first intention is to gradually make NEUROETHICS a new, differentiated and discrete concept in every Mexican psychiatric forum. We are aware that Bioethics has been an issue of great importance and tradition, but now the time has come



NS member Moises Rozanes

to underscore the ethical, social, legal and political aspects that define our discipline. As long as Psychiatry zeroes in every issue related to the human brain, NEUROETHICS has a pending assignment in understanding and guiding the ways we relate to people with mental disorders. Researchers, clinicians and other mental health stakeholders must come together to discuss topics that concern us not only as professionals, but also as inhabitants of a convoluted world who desperately needs "a little help from its friends". This newly created Commission of the Mexican College of Psychiatry has gathered five distinguished members who I humbly accepted the honor to coordinate with the expectation of contributing to the improvement of mental health, equity, fairness and wellness for all our patients."

### Share your successes!

- Have you recently won an award or academic recognition?
- Has one of your colleagues done something worth of recognition?
- Don't forget—achievements of student members are eligible too.

We are putting together an "Awards" section of the Neuroethics Society website and future newsletters. Please submit suggestions to [administrator@neuroethicsociety.org](mailto:administrator@neuroethicsociety.org)

### Job Posting

The National Core for Neuroethics

(<http://www.neuroethicscanada.ca>) is seeking a Postdoctoral or Masters level researcher to join our vibrant team at the University of British Columbia, in Vancouver, Canada, and help lead a new initiative in neuroethics and pediatrics, with a specific focus on Cerebral Palsy, Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder and Autism Spectrum Disorder. The position will be in collaboration with the new National Centre for Excellence "NeuroDevNet" at UBC (<http://www.neurodevnet.ca/>) and the IRCM (<http://www.ircm.qc.ca/en>) in Montreal.

The National Core for Neuroethics also expects to have several other new openings for Postdoctoral Fellows and Graduate Students beginning in Winter 2010.

For more information, or to apply, please contact Ms. Altaira Northe at [altaira.northe@ubc.ca](mailto:altaira.northe@ubc.ca).

## Neuroethics Conference for Healthcare Professionals, July 23-25

By Cassie West, Program Manager, Center for Neuroscience and Society

I'm pleased to announce a first of its kind neuroethics conference aimed at healthcare professionals. The first annual Penn Conference on Clinical Neuroscience & Society will review the latest developments in brain imagery, psychopharmacology, devices, competence and medicolegal practices, and explore the ethical issues raised in the context of lectures and case discussions.

Our distinguished faculty includes:

- Paul Appelbaum, MD, Elizabeth K. Dollard Professor of Psychiatry, Medicine & Law, Director, Division of Law, Ethics, and Psychiatry, Dept. of Psychiatry, Columbia University
- Arthur Caplan, PhD, Chair, Center for Bioethics, University of Pennsylvania
- Martha Farah, PhD, Professor of Psychology and Director of the Center for Neuroscience & Society, University of Pennsylvania
- Joseph Fins, MD, Chief, Division of Medical Ethics and Professor of Medicine, Professor of Public Health and Professor of Medicine in Psychiatry at Weill Cornell Medical College
- Helen Mayberg, MD, Professor of Psychiatry and Neurology, Emory University
- Jonathan Moreno, PhD, David and Lyn Silfen University Professor of Biomedical Ethics and History and Sociology of Science, University of Pennsylvania
- Alan Schatzberg, MD, Chair of Psychiatry & Behavior Sciences, Stanford University, President of American Psychiatric Association
- Daniel R. Weinberger, MD, Senior Scientist, National Institutes of Health.



For additional information and to register, visit our conference web page at: <http://neuroethics.upenn.edu/index.php/events/clinical-conference> or send an email to [conference@neuroethics.upenn.edu](mailto:conference@neuroethics.upenn.edu)

## Call for Papers: Special Issue on Addiction Neuroethics

Special Issue of Neuroethics (Springer)

Guest Editors:

Wayne Hall

School of Population Health, University of Queensland, Australia

Craig Fry

Centre for Applied Philosophy & Public Ethics, University of Melbourne, Australia

Adrian Carter

School of Population Health, University of Queensland, Australia

Background

Innovations in neuroscience and related fields are increasingly being applied to reveal the role of the brain in drug addiction, and the impact of drug use upon brain function, human decisions about drug use and behaviour related to drug use. Advances in this area potentially have wide-spread implications for public policy and the treatment of people who use drugs. Addiction neuroscience also raises fundamental questions about free will, self-control, responsibility, identity and self-understanding which are crucial for the practical translation of this new science.

Several major international reviews have been undertaken in this area since 2004 (e.g. World Health Organisation, UK Foresight Project, European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction, UK Academy of Medical Sciences, and Australian Ministerial Council on Drug Strategy). Interdisciplinary approaches to the conduct and application of addiction neuroscience are developing rapidly in the North America and Europe. Important work is also emerging in Australia and the wider Asia-Pacific region.

Addiction neuroscience is a rapidly developing field. Neuroethics is also a burgeoning specialty within this field that examines the ethical and social implications of addiction neuroscience. It is time to map the issues and examine the progress made to date in these exciting areas.

Purpose & Focus

The purpose of this Addiction Neuroethics theme issue is to bring together the work and opinions of leading philosophers, neuroscientists,

*Continued on next page...*

NS Newsletter  
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## Neuroethics Society

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.

*Continued from previous page...* social scientists and other scholars. Our aim is to take stock of the current science and thinking in this area. We hope to facilitate an interdisciplinary discussion of the implications of addiction neuroscience for treatment, social policy, questions of legal responsibility, self-understanding, and our understanding of free agency and self-control.

We are seeking contributions from people from a range of disciplines and settings including but not limited to: neuroscience; psychology; philosophy; mental health; law; social science; public health; addiction; community/consumer; government. We are especially interested in contributions co-authored by people from different disciplines and with different professional perspectives.

Examples of the topics this special issue of Neuroethics might include are:

- Neurocognitive dysfunction and drug dependence
- Public perceptions and 'patient' self understanding of addiction neuroscience
- Self control, addiction and implications for policy and treatment

- Theories of the 'good life' in addiction neuroscience research and clinical practice
- Cognitive styles and decision making in addiction
- Models of habits and personality in understanding addiction
- Ethics of addiction neuroscience and neuroscience of ethics
- Policy and treatment implications of addiction neuroscience
- Interdisciplinary understandings of addiction neuroscience

Contributions may focus on alcohol, tobacco or illicit drugs. We take a broad view of 'addiction' (i.e. taking it to include gambling, eating and other putative 'consumptive' disorders), providing that there is a link to the potential contribution of neuroscience to understanding and responding to the problem of addiction.

### Format & Process

The Guest Editors of this theme issue will consider proposals for original papers not previously published or under consideration elsewhere. Proposals will be accepted for both empirical and review papers and brief communications. Editorial and Commentary pieces responding to select papers may also be invited.

A brief outline of the proposed paper, including contributing authors and affiliations, should be submitted directly to the Guest Editors by the deadline of 31 July 2009. Proposals should be a maximum of 300 words.

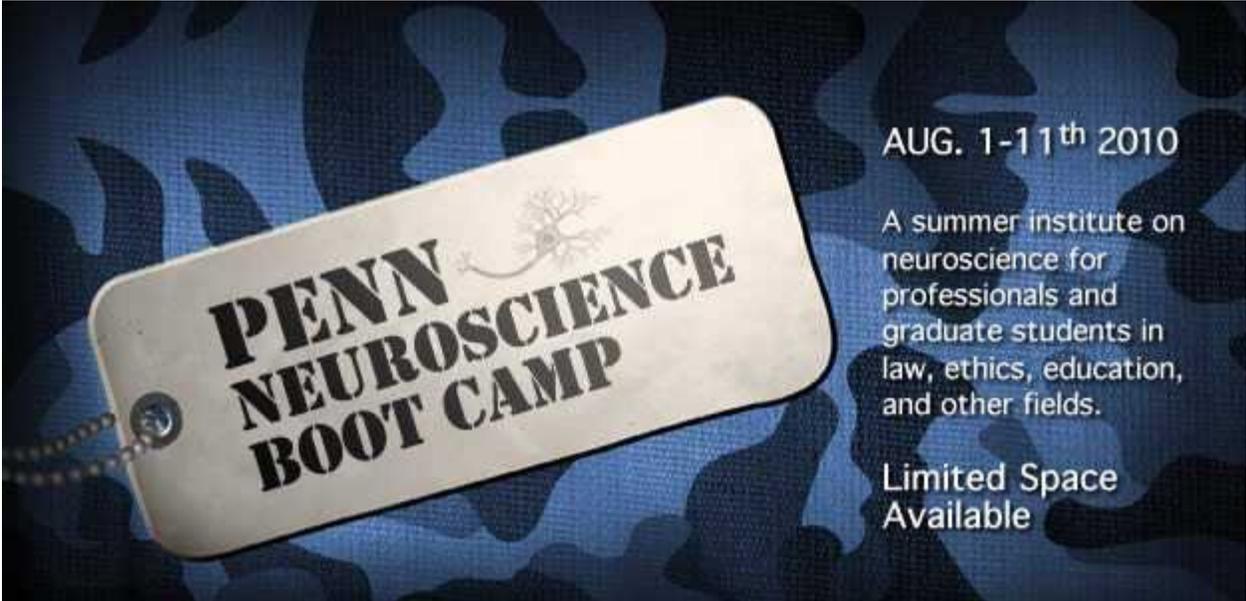
The Guest Editors' decisions on submitted proposals will be communicated to all prospective authors by 31 August 2009. An invitation to submit a full paper does not guarantee acceptance and publication in the theme issue. All full papers submitted will be independently peer reviewed, and Guest Editor decisions made on the basis of peer assessments.

Invited full manuscripts for the Addiction Neuroethics theme issue will be due by 30 November 2009. These will need to be formatted according to Neuroethics author guidelines, and submitted using the journal's online manuscript submission system (see <http://www.editorialmanager.com/NERO>). Publication of this theme issue will be in 2010.

### Queries about the Special Issue

Prof Wayne Hall, University of Queensland, Australia  
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**AUG. 1-11<sup>th</sup> 2010**

A summer institute on neuroscience for professionals and graduate students in law, ethics, education, and other fields.

**Limited Space Available**