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Neuroethics research unit  
at the IRCM

Préparé par l'unité de  
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de l'IRCM

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# BRAINSTORM

A newsletter about ethics, neuroscience, and society  
Un bulletin sur l'éthique, les neurosciences et la société

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Brainstorm

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## Profile | Profil



**Dr. Sebastian Sattler** is a postdoctoral researcher at the Institute for Sociology and Social Psychology at the University of Cologne in Germany. He is also an associate member of the Neuroethics Research Unit at the Institut de recherches cliniques de Montréal in Canada.

Sebastian Sattler has a strong interest in interdisciplinary work in which he aims to contribute to the understanding of behavior that is often perceived as or actually is a violation of social and/or legal norms such as human enhancement, academic dishonesty, and stigmatization. He recently conducted the longitudinal study "FAIRUSE", funded by the German Federal Ministry of Research and Education, in which he investigated the prevalence and predictors of plagia-

rism, cheating, and cognitive enhancement (CE) among university students and teachers. He currently has an Early Career Scholarship of the Enhancing Life Project funded by the Templeton Foundation to investigate pediatric CE. As a Co-PI of the INTERFACES-project, which is based on an international network of researches including Eric Racine and Matthew Sample from the Neuroethics Research Unit, Dr. Sattler wants to contribute to public understanding of using brain-computer-interfaces (non-)therapeutically. He is also interested in moral dilemmas, beliefs in free will, beliefs in longevity, and experimental research.

Dr. Sattler received his MA in Sociology, Political Sciences, and Journalism from the University of Leipzig (Germany) in which he investigated the prevalence and antecedents of plagiarism by students. His PhD in Sociology – obtained at Bielefeld University (Germany) – focused on approaches to explaining morally questionable behavior (including corruption, cognitive enhancement, and academic misconduct).

**Statement on Neuroethics:** I believe that strengthening and funding the dialogue between scholars from the natural sciences, (applied) philosophy, social sciences, and the public is essential to make important steps for further understanding and contributing to neuroethical problems. Evolving and emerging (bio-) technologies - as well as the social changes brought on by the public's hopes and expectations - provide us with a never-ending stream of ethical challenges. Neuroethics research can contribute to technology developers' awareness of the ethical implications of their creations, to the counselling of political decision-makers, and to informing and understanding the needs and ethical concerns of the public. All these stakeholders can benefit from neuroethics research, especially if it is theory-driven and based on sound empirical design.

### Selected Publications:

- Sattler, S., Singh, I. (2016). **Cognitive Enhancement in Healthy Children Will Not Close the Achievement Gap in Education.** *American Journal of Bioethics* 16: 39-41.
- Sattler, S. (2016): **Cognitive Enhancement in Germany: Prevalence, Attitudes, Moral Acceptability, Terms, Legal Status, and the Ethics Debate**, p. 159-180. in Jotterand, F., Dubljević, V. (eds.), *Cognitive Enhancement: Ethical and Policy Implications in International Perspectives* (Oxford: Oxford University Press).
- Sattler, S., Forlini, C., Racine, É., Sauer, C. (2013): **Impact of Contextual Factors and Substance Characteristics on Perspectives toward Cognitive Enhancement.** *PLoS One* 8: e71452.

**Website:** <http://www.uni-bielefeld.de/soz/we/we3/sattler/sattler.htm>

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If you would like to post any events, announcements, or news of interest please contact us at [neuroethics@ircm.qc.ca](mailto:neuroethics@ircm.qc.ca) (subject line: **Brainstorm Events and Announcements**)



## Announcements | Annonces

### Call for applicants: Post-Doctoral Researcher, EnTIRE project, Dublin City University

*The Institute of Ethics at Dublin City University is seeking a postdoctoral researcher for a 4-year fixed-term contract to work on the EnTIRE project and do research on issues of Research Ethics and Research Integrity (RE+RI).*

*The overall aim of the EnTIRE project is to create a platform that makes the normative framework governing RE+RI easily accessible, supports application in research and evaluation, and involves all stakeholders in a participatory way, thus achieving sustainability. The platform will foster uptake of ethical standards and responsible conduct of research, and ultimately support research excellence and strengthen society's confidence in research and its findings.*

**Application deadline:** 15 April 2017

[Click here for more information.](#)

### Call for applicants: Postdoctoral Fellow, Center for Bioethics, Indiana University

*The Center for Bioethics at the Indiana University School of Medicine offers a two-year fellowship. Since its founding in 2001, the Indiana University Center for Bioethics (IUCB), Indianapolis, Indiana, has worked to advance research, teaching, and the public understanding of bioethics. Our faculty investigators carry out interdisciplinary, grant-funded research in many areas, including genetic testing, informed consent, governance of biobanks, use of electronic health records and health information, and research ethics (domestic and international). We are also home to the Bioethics and Subject Advocacy Program (BSAP) of the Indiana Clinical and Translational Science Institute (I-CTSI), and the Indiana Center for Law, Ethics and Applied Research in Health Information (CLEAR Health Information).*

**Application Deadline:** (open until position is filled)

[Click here for more information.](#)

### Call for papers: Science in Public 2017, University of Sheffield

*Science and technology are essential ingredients of our humanity. The emergence of fruitful and diverse scholarly perspectives on the history, practice, communication, governance and impacts of scientific knowledge reflects this fact. Yet rapid scientific and technological change has also unsettled the idea of what it means to be human; for example, through new frontiers in physical and cognitive enhancement, shift to knowledge economies, and potential threats to employment from mass automation. These changes take place in a context of broader challenges to expertise and evidence, dramatically illustrated by the EU referendum and the election of Donald Trump. Taking these matters seriously calls for a renewed focus on compassion, benevolence and civilization. This year at Science in Public, we ask: How do science and technology affect what it means to be human?*

*We invite proposals for papers and other interventions from a wide range of disciplines – including STS, history of science, science communication, sociology, law, disability studies, geography, urban studies, development studies – that reflect on this question.*

**Submission deadline:** April 18

[Click here for more information.](#)

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## Announcements | Annonces

### Call for Papers: Special Issue on Emerging Technologies, Feminist Perspectives on Neural Technologies - International Journal of Feminist Approaches to Bioethics

*Guest Editors: Sara Goering and Laura Specker Sullivan*

*Neural engineering is a rapidly growing, interdisciplinary area of scientific research that is developing technologies such as deep brain stimulators, brain computer interfaces, and neural prostheses. In part because of the close connection between the brain and the self in contemporary North American and European culture, many of the ethical issues related to these technologies involve philosophical concepts such as agency, responsibility, and identity. When these philosophical concepts are understood relationally, as many feminists have recommended, these ethical issues take on important new dimensions currently under-recognized in the field of neural technology development.*

*In this special issue, we aim to build on existing feminist work in neuroethics (e.g., from Francoise Baylis, Mary Walker and Catriona MacKenzie, and Maartje Schermer) and to expand the range of critical feminist perspectives on neural technologies. We welcome essays on issues including but not limited to:*

- *How neural technologies may affect our understanding of relational, intersectional, and narrative identity*
- *What responsibility for action means in the context of relational agency*
- *How neural technologies interact with disability justice movements*
- *How the development of neural technologies includes or excludes certain groups*
- *Whether there are important gendered aspects to neural technology development*
- *How neural technology might affect autonomy competencies*

**Deadline:** April 1, 2018

[Click here for more information.](#)

### Call for applications: Graduate Scholarship, University of British Columbia

*A Master's or PhD scholarship opportunity is available at the National Core for Neuroethics, University of British Columbia, beginning September 2017. The position is part of the European Consortium Grant on ethical legal and social issues in psychiatric neurosurgery. Broadly constructed, the purpose of this project is to explore international views and values about the (re)emergence of psychiatric neurosurgery for mental health disorders. Independent aspects of the project based on the student's own scholarship will serve as the basis for his or her thesis.*

**Deadline:** (position will remain open until filled)

[Click here for more information.](#)

## Events | Événements

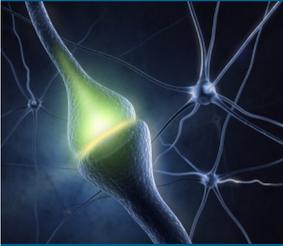
### Montreal Neuroethics Network Seminar: "Défis éthiques des nouveaux traitements pour la maladie d'Alzheimer"

Delivered by Dr. Serge Gauthier, M.D., McGill University, Canada

**Date:** 12 April 2017, 11h30-12h30

**Location:** Salle André-Barbeau, IRCM

[Click here for more information.](#)



# Literature | Littérature

## ARTICLES

[What parents think and feel about deep brain stimulation in paediatric secondary dystonia including cerebral palsy: A qualitative study of parental decision-making.](#)

Austin A, Lin JP, Selway R, Ashkan K, Owen T. Eur J Paediatr Neurol. 2017 Jan; 21(1): 185-92.

[Moral Enhancement Using Non-invasive Brain Stimulation.](#)

Darby RR, Pascual-Leone A. Front Hum Neurosci. 2017 Feb 22; 11: 77. eCollection 2017. [Review].

[A Neurology of the Conservative-Liberal Dimension of Political Ideology.](#)

Mendez MF. J Neuropsychiatry Clin Neurosci. 2017 Mar 7. [Epub ahead of print].

[Ethical Challenges in Developing Drugs for Psychiatric Disorders.](#)

Carrier F, Banayan D, Boley R, Karnik N. Prog Neurobiol. 2017 Mar 6. [Epub ahead of print].

[Physician-assisted death in chronic neurologic diseases.](#)

Bernat JL, McQuillen MP. Neurology. 2017 Mar 17. [Epub ahead of print].

[Electroconvulsive therapy against the patients' will: A case series.](#)

Methfessel I, Sartorius A, Zilles D. World J Biol Psychiatry. 2017 Mar 16: 1-7. [Epub ahead of print].

[Ethical concerns for telemental health therapy amidst governmental surveillance.](#)

Lustgarten SD, Colbow AJ. Am Psychol. 2017 Feb-Mar; 72(2): 159-70.

[Sense of agency in the human brain](#)

Haggard P. Nat Rev Neurosci. 2017 Apr; 18(4): 196-207. Epub 2017 Mar 2.

## NEWS AND SOCIAL MEDIA

[Viewing addiction as a brain disease promotes social injustice](#)

Hart CL. Nature Human Behaviour: World Views. February 17, 2017.

[How Brain Scientists Forgot That Brains Have Owners](#)

Yong E. The Atlantic. February 27, 2017.

[Adults with fetal alcohol syndrome appear prone to health conditions, survey says](#)

Givetash L. CBC News. March 03, 2017.

[Patients Lose Sight After Stem Cells Are Injected Into Their Eyes](#)

Grady D. The New York Times. March 15, 2017.

[A serious and often overlooked issue for patients with brain diseases: Swallowing](#)

Bolser D. The Conversation. March 16, 2017.

[How self-employment affects the brain](#)

Glaser D. The Guardian: A Neuroscientist Explains. March 19, 2017.

[Sesame Street to Welcome First Autistic Muppet](#)

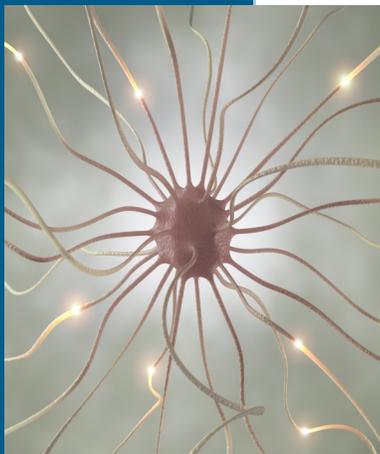
Serjeant J. Reuters. March 20, 2017.

[On Cognitive Doping in Chess \(and Life\)](#)

Hamblin J. The Atlantic. March 21, 2017.

[How Fear of Deportation Puts Stress on Families](#)

Richards SE. The Atlantic. March 22, 2017.



## Resources | Ressources

[University of British Columbia, National Core for Neuroethics](#)

[Neuroethics at the University of Pennsylvania](#)

[International Neuroethics Society](#)

[Neuroethics Research Unit / L'Unité de recherche en neuroéthique](#)

[Journal of Ethics in Mental Health](#)

[Novel Techethics](#)

[Neuroethics at the Stanford Center for Biomedical Ethics](#)

[Berman Institute of Bioethics' Program in Ethics and Brain Sciences](#)

[Centre interfacultaire en bioéthique et sciences humaines en médecine](#)

[The Neuroethics Blog](#)

[Emory Program in Neuroethics](#)

[American Journal of Bioethics Neuroscience](#)

[Neuroethics Women \(NEW\) Leaders](#)



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