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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. Laura Y. Cabrera** is Assistant Professor of Neuroethics at the Center for Ethics and Humanities in the Life Sciences at Michigan State University. She is also Faculty Affiliate at the National Core for Neuroethics, University of British Columbia. Laura Cabrera's interests focus on the ethical and societal implications of neurotechnology, in particular when this is used without a clear medical purpose. She has been working on projects that explore the attitudes of the general public toward pharmacological and brain stimulation enhancing interventions, as well as their normative implications. Her current work also focuses on the ethical and social implications of environmental changes for brain and mental health. She received a BSc in Electrical and Communication Engineering from the Instituto Tecnológico de Estudios Superiores de Monterrey (ITESM) in Mexico City, an MA in Applied Ethics from Linköping University in Sweden, and a PhD in Applied Ethics from Charles Sturt University in Australia. Her career goal is to pursue interdisciplinary neuroethics scholarship, provide active leadership, and train and mentor future leaders in the field.

**Statement on Neuroethics:** I believe that neuroethics is progressing towards the inclusion of more international and crosscultural perspectives, as well as taking more seriously the ethical and societal implications of environmental influences for brain and mental health. I also think that as more neuromodifiers become available, both for therapeutic and non-therapeutic purposes, issues of safety, peer-pressure, and more importantly a better understanding of the reasons underlying people's views in relation to certain neurointerventions are likely to keep being a main part of the field.

### Selected Publications:

- Cabrera, L.Y. (2015). *Rethinking Human Enhancement: Social Enhancement and Emergent Technologies*. Palgrave Macmillan.
- Cabrera, L.Y. and Reiner, P.B. (2015). Understanding public (mis)understanding of tDCS for enhancement. *Frontiers in Integrative Neuroscience* 9 (28). DOI:10.3389/fnint.2015.00028.
- Cabrera, L.Y., Fitz, N., Reiner, P.B. (2015). Reasons for comfort and discomfort with pharmacological enhancement of cognitive, affective, and social domains. *Neuroethics*, 8:93-106. DOI: 10.1007/s12152-014-9222-3.

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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 Participants:

Dear Colleagues,

We kindly invite you to participate in our research study about moral judgments. The survey asks you to read several scenarios, and invites you to respond to a set of questions. The entire survey should take no more than 15 minutes. The closing date of the survey is 20th of December.

Participation in this survey is entirely voluntary and anonymous.

<http://unipark.de/uc/moral8/>

Thank you for considering this request.

Best wishes,

Veljko Dubljevic Ph.D./D.Phil (North Carolina State University, USA),  
Sebastian Sattler, Ph.D. (University of Cologne, Germany), and  
Prof. Éric Racine, Ph.D. (Institut de recherches cliniques de Montréal, Canada)

**Call for Applicants:** Tenure Track Assistant Professor, Department of Philosophy, Eckerd College, FL

**Application Deadline:** December 12, 2016

[Click here for more information.](#)

**Call for Applicants:** Research Assistant Professor, Centre for Bioethics, Faculty of Medicine, the Chinese University of Hong Kong

**Soft Deadline:** January 15, 2017

[Click here for more information.](#)

**Call for Papers:** Conference – Consent: Its nature and normative relevance, Muenster, Germany, June 21-23, 2017

**Submission Deadline:** January 15, 2017

[Click here for more information.](#)

**Call for Abstracts:** 7th Philosophy of Medicine Roundtable – Medicine, Public Health and Healthcare, University of Toronto, June 23-24, 2017

**Submission Deadline:** February 1, 2017

[Click here for more information.](#)

**Call for Papers:** IX Edition of the International Scientific Conference on Neuroethics and Fourth Conference of the Italian Society for Neuroethics (SINe), May 17th-19th, 2017

**Submission Deadline:** March 15, 2017

[Click here for more information.](#)

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:** Researchers for the The [Neuroethics and Philosophy](#) group at CRB is part of The European Commission (EC) Future and Emerging Technologies Flagship, the [Human Brain Project \(HBP\)](#).

The Neuroethics group is in charge of analysing the conceptual underpinnings and implications of HBP research, and of identifying and articulating philosophical, ethical, notably neuroethical, issues raised by such research.

We are currently looking for researchers for two tasks:

- ⇒ The role of contexts and cultural imprinting in understanding the brain's functional architectures. [Click here for more info.](#)
- ⇒ Philosophical and ethical challenges of modelling cognitive processes in silico. [Click here for more info.](#)

**Application Deadline:** January 12, 2017.

## Events | Événements

**Montreal Neuroethics Network Seminar:** “Why science — and neuroscience — need ‘passion’” delivered by Louis C Charland, PhD, Western University.

**Date:** December 14, 2016, 11:30am-12:30pm

**Location:** Institut de recherches cliniques de Montréal (IRCM), André-Barbeau Auditorium

[Click here for more information.](#)

**Two-day Symposium: Neurointerventions in Crime Prevention: Bioethical, Legal and Criminological Perspectives**

3-4 April 2017, Swansea University

Brain active drugs and other ‘neuro-interventions’ could potentially be used to facilitate the rehabilitation of criminal offenders. Should offenders ever be offered or required to undergo such interventions? This symposium will bring together academics from the fields of bioethics, philosophy, medicine, criminology and law to explore and debate this and related questions. Speakers will include Bebhinn Donnelly (Swansea), Chris Bennett (Sheffield), David Birks (Kiel), Dennis Paterson (Swansea), Elizabeth Shaw (Aberdeen), Hannah Maslen (Oxford), Jan Christoph Bublitz (Hamburg), Jesper Ryberg (Roskilde), John Danaher (Galway), Jonathan Pugh (Oxford), Katrien Devolder (Oxford), Martin Innes (Cardiff), Marty Chamberlain (Swansea) and Tom Douglas (Oxford).

The symposium is open to all, but places are tightly limited. If you are interested in attending, please contact Marty Chamberlain ([j.m.chamberlain@swansea.ac.uk](mailto:j.m.chamberlain@swansea.ac.uk)) with your expression of interest.

# Literature | Littérature

## ARTICLES

[The forensic use of behavioral genetics in criminal proceedings: Case of the MAOA-L genotype.](#)

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[Guided self-help interventions for mental health disorders in children with neurological conditions: study protocol for a pilot randomised controlled trial.](#)

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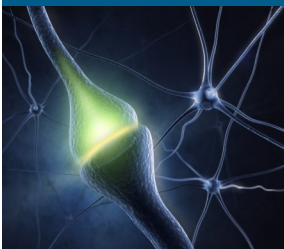
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## Literature | Littérature

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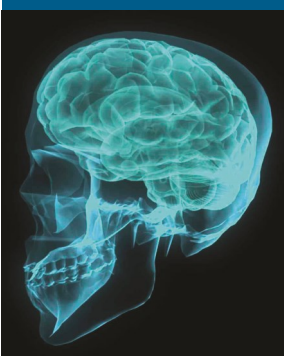
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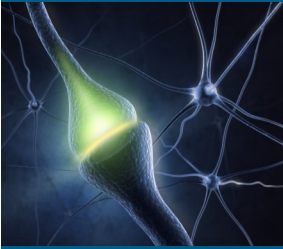
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## Literature | Littérature

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[Justices Hear Texas Death Penalty Case Involving Intellectual Disability](#)

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## 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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