Louis C. Charland, PhD When I began graduate studies in philosophy at Western University in the early 1980s, the topic of emotion was of marginal importance in the philosophy of mind and the philosophical foundations of cognitive and neuroscience. Nevertheless, in 1989 I graduated with a dissertation on that topic entitled, ‘Emotions and the Representational Mind: A Computationalist Perspective’. I later wrote several papers based on that dissertation and was pleasantly surprised to see them accepted by mainstream journals where emotion is seldom discussed (‘Philosophy of Science’, Synthese’, ‘Philosophical Psychology’, and later, the ‘British Journal for the Philosophy of Science’).

I sometimes wish I had tried to publish my dissertation. Instead, I left philosophy to pursue career options in health. Along the way, I discovered bioethics. I quickly saw that some of the ideas in my dissertation had potentially radical consequences for concepts like informed consent and decision-making capacity. More recently, I have been inquiring into how affective terms and concepts taken from the history of psychiatry can help further contemporary research on mental disorders. One example is a collaborative empirical study entitled ‘Anorexia Nervosa as a Passion’, published in the journal ‘Philosophy, Psychiatry & Psychology’.

Much of my research has been stimulated by ‘applied’ work in various health care settings. My experience with the Premier’s Council on Health Strategy of the Government of Ontario, the Toronto Hospital for Sick Children, and the Biomedical Ethics Unit at McGill University, proved invaluable in that regard. My current position as Professor in the Department of Philosophy at Western University continues to provide me with an ideal interdisciplinary home for conducting my research, due to my cross-appointment with the Department of Psychiatry, a joint-appointment with the Faculty of Health Sciences, and my membership in the Rotman Institute of Philosophy.

Emotion is certainly a more popular topic now than it was when I began my philosophical studies. One outstanding challenge for contemporary neuroethics and neurophilosophy is the putative empirical validity our current affective theoretical terms and concepts and the question of their neural underpinnings. As we attempt to make headway on these issues, we need to carefully reexamine the history of neuroanatomy and pay greater attention to the limitations of our research tools and methods – for example, fMRI. Of special interest is the question what was lost and gained when ‘passion’ gave way to ‘emotion’ as the keyword for the affective sciences.
Announcements | Annonces

Call for Abstracts: The Ethics of Disordering, hosted by the Centre for Professional Ethics at Keele University, UK, 25 May, 2016
Submission Deadline: 4 April, 2016, click here for more info.

Summer Course: Ethics in Dementia Care, 6-8 July, 2016, Leuven, Belgium
Early Bird Deadline: May 16th, 2016, click here for more info.

Call for Abstracts: International Neuroethics Society Annual Meeting, November 10-11, 2016, San Diego, USA
Submission Deadline: June 1, 2016, click here for more info.

Call for Neuroethics Essays: International Neuroethics Society Student/Postdoc Essay Contest
Submission Deadline: June 15, 2016, click here for more info.

Events | Événements

Conference: Does Neuroscience Have Normative Implications?
Date: April 15-16, 2016
Location: Illinois Institute of Technology, Chicago, click here for more info.

The University of Gothenburg and the Gothenburg Responsibility Project — Workshop on Agency and Responsibility
Date: May 5-6, 2016, Gothenburg, Sweden, click here for more info.

Conference: Ethics and the Brain
Date: May 20-21, 2016
Location: Insight Institute or Neurosurgery and Neuroscience, Flint, Michigan, click here for more info.

Conference — Care in Practice: On the Philosophy and Implementation of Care Ethics
Date: June 1-2, 2016
Location: Humanities Research Institute, University of Sheffield, UK, click here for more info.

Johns Hopkins Bioethics Intensives 2016
Date: Various dates, June 2016
Location: Johns Hopkins Berman Institute of Bioethics, Baltimore, MD, click here for more info.
Concours – Chercheur invité en neuroéthique 2016-2017

Unité de recherche en neuroéthique – Institut de recherches cliniques de Montréal, IRCM

Destiné autant à des chercheurs en début de carrière que déjà établis, de n’importe quelle discipline académique, ce programme représente une opportunité de prendre part à la recherche en neuroéthique dans un environnement dynamique. Les candidats doivent soumettre une proposition de projet de recherche à être réalisé durant leur séjour de un à deux mois à l’unité de recherche en neuroéthique de l’IRCM à Montréal au Canada.

DÉTAILS DU CONCOURS
Nous acceptons les candidatures de chercheurs canadiens et internationaux démontrant un intérêt marqué envers la recherche en neuroéthique.

Quoiqu’aucune expérience formelle en recherche en neuroéthique ne soit requise, les candidats doivent proposer un projet de recherche contribuant de manière originale à la littérature de ce domaine. Tous les chercheurs invités doivent être capables de travailler indépendamment sur leur propre recherche, bien que des projets collectifs rassemblant des membres actuels de l’unité de recherche en neuroéthique puissent leur être proposés. Si nous acceptons des propositions sur un large éventail de sujets en neuroéthique, une préférence sera toutefois donnée aux projets touchant ces domaines :

- Neurosciences et participation publique
- Sexe, genre et neuroéthique
- Réflexion critique sur la neuroéthique et l’interdisciplinarité
- Éthique de la recherche en neurologie et en psychiatrie
- Libre arbitre et action volontaire
- Usages commerciaux des neurosciences
- Éthique et troubles du neurodéveloppement
- Interfaces cerveau-ordinateur

Les frais de déplacement aller-retour à Montréal seront couverts (jusqu’à concurrence de 1500$ CAD) et les chercheurs invités recevront une allocation imposable de 750 à 1500$ CAD couvrant une partie des coûts de leur visite. Les chercheurs doivent proposer une durée de séjour appropriée (1 à 2 mois). En tant que membres de l’unité de recherche en neuroéthique, ils bénéficieront d’un espace de travail personnel, et prendront aussi part au Journal Club hebdomadaire. Ils donneront un minimum de deux présentations portant sur leurs recherches par l’entremise du Réseau neuroéthique de Montréal et ses centres affiliés. Les chercheurs devront aussi contribuer, en lien avec leurs activités de recherche, au contenu de Brainstorm, le hebdomadaire mensuel de l’unité portant sur l’éthique, les neurosciences, et la société.

DATES IMPORTANTES

SOUMISSIONS DE CANDIDATURES
Veuillez soumettre par courriel un projet de recherche en anglais ou en français d’un maximum de 2 pages (détailant le contexte, la méthodologie et les justifications de la contribution, ainsi que la faisabilité du projet), accompagné d’un CV et une lettre de présentation à neuroethics@rcm.qc.ca. Nous communiquerons uniquement avec les candidats présélectionnés. Les candidats choisis sont responsables de remplir les conditions d’entrée au Canada.
**Competition – Visiting Scholar in Neuroethics 2016-2017**

**Neuroethics Research Unit – Institut de recherches cliniques de Montréal, IRCM**

This program aims to provide early-career and established researchers from any disciplinary background with the opportunity to engage in neuroethics research within a dynamic environment. Applicants will submit proposals for a research project to be completed during a one- to two-month stay at the Neuroethics Research Unit of the IRCM in Montréal, Canada.

**COMPETITION DETAILS**

We are seeking applications from both national and international scholars who have a strong interest in undertaking research in neuroethics.

While no formal neuroethics experience is required, applicants must propose a research project that can make an original contribution to the field. All visiting scholars must be able to work on their research with minimal supervision and priority will be given to candidates who demonstrate an interest in building a collaborative project with members of the Neuroethics Research Unit.

We welcome submissions on a wide variety of topics in neuroethics but will give preference to those in the following areas:

- Neuroscience and public engagement
- Sex, gender and neuroethics
- Critical reflection on neuroethics and interdisciplinarity
- Research ethics in neurology and psychiatry
- Free will and voluntary action
- Commercial uses of neuroscience
- Ethics and neurodevelopmental disorders
- Brain-Computer Interfaces

Visiting scholars will have their return travel to Montreal covered (up to $1500 CAD) and will receive a taxable stipend of $750-1500 CAD. Scholars are asked to propose an appropriate length of stay (1 to 2 months). As visiting members of the Neuroethics Research Unit, they will receive a dedicated workspace, take part in weekly Journal Club meetings, and will be expected to deliver a minimum of 2 lectures on the topic of their research through the Montreal Neuroethics Network. Further, they will also be expected to contribute writing on the topic of their research to *Brainstorm*, the Unit's monthly newsletter on neuroscience, ethics, and society.

**DEADLINES**

Submission of applications: March 15th–June 15th, 2016
Start date: Flexible – Spring/Summer/Fall 2017

**APPLICATIONS**

Please submit by email a research proposal in English or French of no more than 2 pages in length (detailing the background, methods, and justification of the contribution, as well as feasibility of the project), a CV, and cover letter to: neuroethics@ircm.qc.ca.

Only shortlisted applicants will be contacted. The successful applicant will be responsible for ensuring they meet the requirements to enter Canada.
ARTICLES


Are patients with amyotrophic lateral sclerosis at risk of a therapeutic misconception?

Responsibilities of Health Care Professionals in Counseling and Educating Patients With Incurable Neurological Diseases Regarding "Stem Cell Tourism": Caveat Emptor.

Transitions in Parkinson's disease in primary care: protocol of a longitudinal mixed methods study.

Attitudes of the autism community to early autism research.

Exit exceptionalism: mental disease is like any other medical disease.

Reflections on Addiction in Students Using Stimulants for Neuroenhancement: A Preliminary Interview Study.

Smoking ban in psychiatric wards raises safety and ethical issues.

Spontaneous Decisions and Free Will: Empirical Results and Philosophical Considerations.

Safety of research into severe and treatment-resistant mood disorders: analysis of outcome data from 12 years of clinical trials at the US National Institute of Mental Health.

Future needs for informed consent in stem cell clinical trials in neurodegenerative diseases.

How we may think: Imaging and writing technologies across the history of the neurosciences.

A Conversation with Patricia Churchland.
‘Brain doping’ may improve athletes’ performance: Electrical stimulation seems to boost endurance in preliminary studies.

Non-Motor Symptoms of Essential Tremor Are Independent of Tremor Severity and Have an Impact on Quality of Life.

NEWS AND SOCIAL MEDIA

Four neuromyths that are still prevalent in schools – debunked

Virtual reality could be an ethical minefield – are we ready?

A mathematical view on personality

The Neuroscientist Who Lost Her Mind

A Brief History of Autism Research

A Pill for Down Syndrome

Naming the devil: The mental health double bind

The NFL Fumbles a Key Concession on Concussions

Moral Psychology: An Exchange

Toronto man who was granted right to doctor-assisted death has died

How Corporations Will Use Artificial Empathy to Sell Us More Shit

Should Parents of Children With Severe Disabilities Be Allowed to Stop Their Growth?
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