

EUROPEAN DANA ALLIANCE FOR THE BRAIN

NEUROETHICS EVENTS IN EUROPE 2007

EDAB'S 10TH ANNIVERSARY

Neuroscience in Society is the theme for celebrating EDAB's 10th anniversary in 2007.

Through a pan-European programme of activities throughout the year EDAB has explored the impact of brain research on our lives, now and in the future.

BRAIN AWARENESS WEEK

Hundreds of events took place in around 65 European countries. Many touched on neuroethics, others were on neuroethical themes. A few examples are shown below.

POLAND Neurocognition – the psychology of the future

PORTUGAL Stem cells: a valuable therapy for neurodegenerative diseases?

ROMANIA Brain mapping: treasure-hunting for what makes us human

Guilty or not Guilty? - a trial

SERBIA AND MONTENEGRO Animal models of epilepsy

Comparative studies of fetal motor development in mammals

TURKEY The Brain and Violence - Panellists will discuss the causes of violent behaviour and how societies can prevent violence.

Brain and Behaviour in Cinema: film shows and discussion between cinematographers, neurologists and psychiatrists on issues raised in 1) One Flew Over Cuckoo's Nest, 2) Awakenings 3) Iris

UK Entrances and Exits: art and science of birth and death

Love, Race & Hate in the UK

Upgrading Humans - Technical Realities and New Morals"

Rewired – Theatre performance of how brain injury can reconstruct our thoughts, emotions and actions

Sex, Lies and Brain Scanning

EDAB PUBLIC LECTURES IN EUROPE

In celebration of its 10th anniversary in 2007, EDAB offered to support up to eight public lectures presented by European national neuroscience societies during 2007.

BELGIUM Professor Roland Pochet: "How Does Consciousness Inhabit Us?"

FINLAND Professor Tarja Stenberg: "Nutrition and Health of the Brain"

GEORGIA Professor Merab G. Tsagareli: "Neuroscience, Brain Research Science: Traditions and Perspectives Society Awareness"

HUNGARY Professor Emilia Madarasz: Public Lectures in two centres of Hungarian Brain Research

ROMANIA Professor Leon Zagrean: "Where do Arts and Science Meet? The Artistic Brain, the Psychosomatic Impact of Music, Art Therapy"

RUSSIA Professors Marina Chernisheva and Aleksandr Nozdrachev: "Emotions, Neural Control of Visceral Functions and Health of Society"

SPAIN Professor Carlos Belmonte: "Debates on the Brain and Society, Brain and Tribalism"

UK Professor Graham Collingridge: "The Arts-Science Divide: Where Does Brain Science Fit In?"

This lecture has been postponed till early 2008.

OTHER ACTIVITIES BY EDAB MEMBERS

FINLAND – Markku Kaste gave a public lecture on Brain Death

GERMANY Wolf Singer gave lectures on Philosophical Implications of brain Research; How Free is Our Will?; Brain Research at the Interface of Science and Humanities.

ITALY Paolo Battaglini organised a series of neuroscience cafes on Artificial Intelligence, The Possibility of Reading Minds with Neuroimaging Techniques

NORWAY Terje Sagvolden gave a one-day seminar for Norwegian politicians on gambling and substance abuse.

ITALY Piergiorgio Strata took part in a round-table discussion on 'Right to Live, Right to Die. He also gave a seminar on Neuroethics and Embryonic Stem Cells. He had an audience with the Senate Commission about living wills. He gave a magazine interview on Underground Euthanasia: a Truth that Scandalises

CZECH REPUBLIC Eva Sykova appeared in a TV programme on Czech Scientists Experiment on Stem Cells. She wrote an article on The Elixir of Youth will include Stem Cells.

UK Pierre Magistretti has taken part in The Battle of Ideas in a session on 'The Biology of Freedom.'

At the **WORLD ECONOMIC FORUM** in Davos, Russell Foster, Susan Greenfield and Thomas Insel were among the panellists who discussed depression.

THE DANA CENTRE – www.danacentre.org.uk

The Science Museum's Dana Centre is a purpose-built venue in Central London where the public discover, discuss and debate science. EDAB organises about 30 events a year on brain-related themes (although the Science Museum organises others on a whole range of science topics, eg technology, environment). Below are some EDAB events on - *or including* - neuroethical themes.

Drugs Futures – the launch of a public consultation on attitudes towards the use of 'smart' pills and recreational drugs.

NEURObotics – to reflect an exhibition at the Science Museum we asked whether technology can boost our brains.

Spinal Cord Superheroes – can spinal injury be repaired and do disabled people necessarily want to try new and experimental treatment?

Brainy Brave New World - Stem cells, brain imaging and drugs to enhance the brain often hit the headlines. Is new technology speeding ahead of the law? With contributions from Judy Illes live from the USA.

The Right to Die, the Choice to Live – the ethical dilemmas over keeping someone alive when there is no chance of recovery, suicide and assisted death.

Mind Wars – a trans-Atlantic discussion on the application of neuroscience for warfare and national security

Biology of Freedom – launch of Pierre Magistretti's and François Ansermet's new book of the same name.

Yob Nation – should anti-social behaviour be punished or treated?

Spare Parts: one day you might need them – a discussion on tissue and organ donation (including brains) that reflected just some of the issues in the proposed new Human Tissue and Embryology law

Computational brain – can computers really mimic our brain or generate thought? The development of brain-computer interface technology

Compassionate Mind – Buddhist Monk, Matthieu Ricard will talk about his research with Tania Singer on brain scanning to reveal changing patterns of brain activity during meditation

Love, Life and Adoption – research into the psychological impact of adoption on families and children.

Secular Art in Sacred Places – Are our brains hard-wired to create religious works of art?