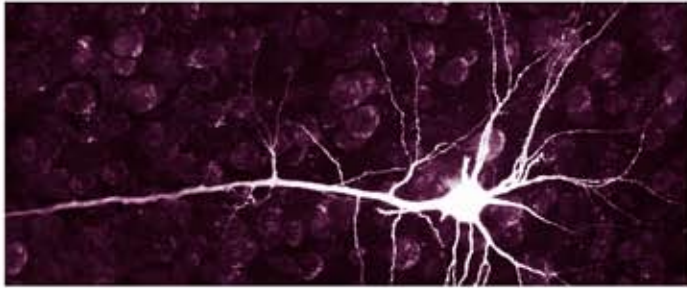


NEUROSCIENCE & PUBLIC POLICY SEMINAR



MY NEURONS MADE ME DO IT! - HOW NEUROSCIENCE IS CHALLENGING OUR VIEWS OF LEGAL AND MORAL RESPONSIBILITY

JED RAKOFF, J.D.

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT JUDGE, SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK
ADJUNCT PROFESSOR OF LAW, COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY

FRIDAY, MAY 10
4:00 PM
341 BARDEEN LABS

Judges have a kind of love/hate relationship with science in general, and neuroscience in particular. Early versions of 'brain science' were embraced by some judges, only to prove non-scientific or even shams. Scientific advancement, reflected in modern neuroscience, has judges questioning again whether it can provide a key to an array of diverse issues. How do we detect pain? How do we cure addiction? Most importantly, how do we determine whether a person is legally 'responsible' for antisocial acts? This lecture traces the mixed history of neuroscience and the law and offers some tentative predictions as to how it will influence the law in the immediate and not-so-immediate future.