NEUROSCIENCE & PUBLIC POLICY SEMINAR

NEUROSCIENCE AND THE LAW

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4:00 PM
341 BARDEEN

Emerging questions at the interface of law and neuroscience challenge our fundamental notions of free-will and the presumptions that lie at the heart of criminal behavior and punishment. Is it a legitimate defense, for example, to claim that a brain tumor or genetic mutation "made you do it?" Will neuroscience inform sentencing decisions by offering a better prediction of recidivism? Can novel technologies such as real-time brain imaging be leveraged for new methods of rehabilitation? If most behaviors are driven by systems of the brain that we cannot control, how should the law assess culpability? These and other questions will be addressed through the lens of the Baylor College of Medicine’s Initiative on Neuroscience and Law, which brings together a unique collaboration of neurobiologists, legal scholars and policy makers, with the goal of building modern, evidence-based policy.

For additional information or questions, contact Jenny Dahlberg: npp@mhub.neuroscience.wisc.edu or 262-4932