

News Release

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*University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine
University of Pennsylvania Health System*

Invitation to Cover

PENN Psychiatry Presents:

“The Vulcanization of the Human Mind: Neuroimaging, Decision-Making, and Ethics”

(PHILADELPHIA) - The [University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine](#)'s [Department of Psychiatry](#) and the [Psychoanalytic Center of Philadelphia](#) will host “The Vulcanization of the Human Mind: Neuroimaging, Decision-Making, and Ethics,” a panel discussion exploring how humans make complex decisions involving risk, reward, danger and right and wrong. The panelists will discuss the evolutionary origin of emotional responses, the ways in which they have been rendered maladaptive under some circumstances by the continued evolution of the human brain and its influence on social structure and technology, and how these developments might explain the apparent “irrationality” of human decision-making behavior.

WHERE: University of Pennsylvania
Bodek Lounge, [Houston Hall](#)
3417 Spruce Street
Philadelphia, PA 19104

WHEN: December 13, 2006
7:30 PM

WHO: [Jonathan D. Cohen, PhD](#), Director, Center for the Study of Brain, Mind, and Behavior, Princeton University

[Richard F. Summers, MD](#), Associate Director of Education for Residency Training, University of Pennsylvania Department of Psychiatry; Faculty,

Psychoanalytic Center of Philadelphia

[Paul Root Wolpe, PhD](#), Senior Fellow, University of Pennsylvania Center for Bioethics; Director of the Program in Psychiatry and Ethics at the School of Medicine

For additional information, contact Sarah Lichter at (215) 746-7248 or Kate Olderman at (215) 349-8369.

This event is open to the public.

Refreshments will be served.

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PENN Medicine is a \$2.9 billion enterprise dedicated to the related missions of medical education, biomedical research, and high-quality patient care. PENN Medicine consists of the University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine (founded in 1765 as the nation's first medical school) and the University of Pennsylvania Health System.

Penn's School of Medicine is ranked #2 in the nation for receipt of NIH research funds; and ranked #3 in the nation in U.S. News & World Report's most recent ranking of top research-oriented medical schools. Supporting 1,400 fulltime faculty and 700 students, the School of Medicine is recognized worldwide for its superior education and training of the next generation of physician-scientists and leaders of academic medicine.

The University of Pennsylvania Health System includes three hospitals, all of which have received numerous national patient-care honors [Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania; Pennsylvania Hospital, the nation's first hospital; and Penn Presbyterian Medical Center]; a faculty practice plan; a primary-care provider network; two multispecialty satellite facilities; and home care and hospice.

This release is available online at

[http://www.uphs.upenn.edu/news/News Releases/dec06/psychiatry-panel-discussion.htm](http://www.uphs.upenn.edu/news/News_Releases/dec06/psychiatry-panel-discussion.htm)