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## SYMPOSIUM ANNOUNCEMENT

### ***Addiction, Identity & Responsibility: Perspectives from Neuroscience, Social Science, Philosophy and Law***

Tuesday 20th October 2009

Macquarie Graduate School of Management  
Macquarie University  
Amphitheatre Room 103  
99 Talavera Road, North Ryde, Sydney  
<http://www.hotel.mgsm.com.au/>

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#### **Convenors**

Prof Jeanette Kennett (Macquarie University)

A/Prof Neil Levy (University of Melbourne)

Dr Craig Fry (Murdoch Children's Research Institute and University of Melbourne)

#### **Rationale and Purpose**

Research in neuroscience and genetics is increasingly revealing the role of the brain in drug addiction, and the impact of drug use upon brain function, human decisions about drug use and related behaviour. Advances in this area potentially have widespread implications for public policy and the treatment of people who use drugs, and reinvigorates long-standing philosophical questions about free will, self-control, responsibility, identity and self understanding.

This one-day symposium is hosted by the Macquarie University Centre for Agency, Values and Ethics. It will bring together leading neuroscientists, social scientists, philosophers, legal scholars and others to discuss the implications of addiction neuroscience and related research for our understandings of and responses to drug addiction. The meeting aims to facilitate an interdisciplinary dialogue on the implications of addiction neuroscience for treatment, social policy, questions of responsibility, and self-understanding.

This event builds upon the successful 2008 Melbourne symposium, *Advances in Addiction Neuroscience: Policy, Treatment, Ethics and Self-Understanding*, which prompted an addiction neuroethics theme issue of the international journal *Neuroethics* (Springer), in preparation.

#### **Speakers**

Guest speakers will participate in four sessions during the *Addiction, Identity & Responsibility* symposium. Some of the confirmed speakers include:

Dr Alex Wodak (St Vincent's Hospital)

A/Prof Dan Lubman (University of Melbourne)

Prof Iain McGregor (University of Sydney)

Prof Jeanette Kennett (Macquarie University)

Prof Simon Killcross (University of NSW)

Justice David Hodgson (Supreme Court of NSW)

Prof Wayne Hall (University of QLD)

Dr Helen Keane (Australian National University)

A/Prof Philip Gerrans (University of Adelaide)

#### **Registrations**

This is a free and open event, however registrations will be strictly limited to 50. To guarantee a seat please RSVP to Dr Craig Fry at [craig.fry@mcri.edu.au](mailto:craig.fry@mcri.edu.au) by 18 September 2009.

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