

The History and Future Prospects of Neuroethics as Seen in the Conjugation of ELSI

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Abstract:

Neuroethics is a kind of trans-science field that comprehensively deals with the impact of neuroscience research and its social implementation on human understanding, legal systems, social environments, etc. On the other hand, neuroethics is also an academic discipline discussing ELSI (Ethical, Legal and Social Issues) of neuroscience research, and as neuroscience per se has progressed, the topics of ELSI being discussed have also changed. Since the 2010s, neuroscience has achieved results that have not only deepened our understanding of humans but have also forced fundamental changes in the various moral values surrounding human being, through the fusion of neuroscience with AI and organoid technology. In line with this, various terms have appeared like ELSA (Ethical, Legal and Social) and ELSE (Ethical, Legal, Social and Economy) and so on in addition to ELSI. In this lecture, I will look at the history of the co-evolution of neuroscience and neuroethics, and consider the ethical issues involved in the development of neuroscience and the social implementation of research results, as suggested by those terms.

Biographical information:

Tamami Fukushi is a professor at Faculty of Human Welfare, Tokyo Online University. She started career in Neuroethics at the Research Institute of Science and Technology for Society (RISTEX), Japan Science and Technology Agency (JST) as a researcher of cohort project called "Japan Children's Study Group". She organized the first international symposium of neuroethics in Asian region in July 2006 in Japan and contributed to a dissemination of neuroethics. After closing the cohort project, she experienced science policy at Center for Research and development Strategies (CRDS) in JST and regulatory science at Pharmaceuticals and Medical Devices Agency (PMDA), extending her career to science policy making and international cooperation/harmonization in life science and medicines. In 2017 she rebooted neuroethics activity to re-organize relevant community in Japan and Asia. Her current interest of neuroethics is Responsible Research and Innovation (RRI) in addition to

ethics education of advanced technology of neuroscience in the context of engineering ethics, science policy and regulatory science.