

## FROM THE EDITOR

### Front-Burner Issues



**BY BILL GLOVIN**  
Executive Editor, Dana Foundation

As we were trying to decide on what to cover in this issue, the coronavirus was relatively new but already dominating almost every aspect of our lives. All these months later, Covid-19 is still omnipresent. But now, as the world tries to move forward and find answers to the worst global health crisis in modern history, the Black Lives Matter movement and systemic racism has emerged as an issue of vital concern.

Given our deadlines, we were unable to address diversity and tolerance in the neuroscience field. We plan to in the future. And while we fear that you may be weary of reading about the coronavirus, it would be odd, and even a bit irresponsible, to ignore it. So, being a publication that focuses on our largest and most complex organ, we offer coverage that has been mostly a sidebar in all of the brain-science reporting dedicated to the pandemic: its potential impact on dementia, stroke, neurodegenerative diseases, mental health, neuroscience as a discipline, and more.

Two very talented science writers tackle important issues. First is the enormous impact Covid-19 is having on the field of neuroscience, from education to grants to lab work. Second is a feature on what scientists have already learned about any number of viruses that came before and their effect on the brain. Our neuroethics column examines the dangers associated with the pressure science and the media feel to draw conclusions about the relationship between Covid-19 and the brain. And since it's impossible to tackle everything, we offer links to notable articles about Covid-19 and the brain that we've seen.

For readers who are looking to escape for a bit from Covid-19 overload, we offer a feature on osteocalcin, a fascinating, little-known hormone located in bone and that triggers our sense of danger. We are very fortunate to have Gérard Karsenty, a geneticist who is a pioneer in osteocalcin research, explain his path to discovery. We are also fortunate to have Marc Brackett and Christina Cipriano explain the evolution of the relatively new field of emotional intelligence and its impact on education and the business world, based on their research at the Yale Center for Emotional Intelligence. And if you want to dig a little deeper into these topics, you can hear more from some of our authors through our Cerebrum podcasts.

Meanwhile, we hope this issue helps enlighten. Stay safe and healthy in these difficult times. •



EMERGING IDEAS IN BRAIN SCIENCE

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**Letters to the Editor**  
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Letters may be edited for length and clarity. We regret that we cannot answer each one.