

BIOETHICS AND HUMANITIES NEWSLETTER

PROGRAM IN BIOETHICS AND HUMANITIES



April 2014

Welcome to the monthly Bioethics and Humanities Newsletter provided by the Program in Bioethics and Humanities at the University of Iowa Carver College of Medicine.

Program in Bioethics and Humanities: *Our Mission*

We are committed to helping healthcare professionals explore and understand the increasingly complex ethical questions that have been brought on by advances in medical technology and the health care system. We achieve this through education, research, and service within the Carver College of Medicine, University of Iowa Health Care, University of Iowa, and the wider Iowa community.

[More Details About The Program](#)



Program Highlight

The University of Iowa History of Medicine Society
announces the
[R. Palmer Howard Dinner for 2014](#)



*The Origins and Evolution of the Mayo Clinic
from 1864 to 1939: A Minnesota Family Practice
Becomes an International 'Medical Mecca'.*

W. Bruce Fye
Professor of Medicine and Medical History
Mayo Clinic

Friday, April 25, 2014, 6:00-9:00PM
Isaac's Hall, Holiday Inn
Coralville, Iowa

Upcoming Events

For a listing of upcoming events related to bioethics and humanities, please click [here](#).

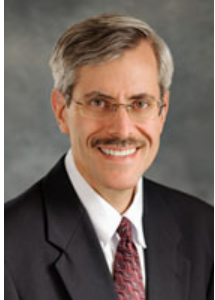
Quotation of the Month

These responses – clinical detachment, efficiency and productivity, prestige and authority, hierarchy, and wealth – are not intrinsic to the practice of medicine. Although the structure of modern medical practice may encourage them, we physicians also choose to endorse and accept them, in part as a way to relieve the inordinate pressure of our work. They seem to offer a kind of escape. Unfortunately, the escape is only illusory.

- David Hilfiker, *Healing the Wounds* (p. 119)

Duty to Care

Internal Medicine Grand Rounds
Thursday, April 10, 2014, noon-1:00PM
Medical Alumni Auditorium (E331 GH)



Presented by:

Lauris Kaldjian, MD, PhD
Director, Program in Bioethics and Humanities
Richard M. Caplan Chair in Biomedical Ethics
and Medical Humanities
Interim Director, Division of General Internal Medicine
Professor, Department of Internal Medicine

Publication Highlights

[A Conceptual Model of Family Surrogate End-of-Life Decision-Making Process in the Nursing Home Setting: Goals of Care as Guiding Stars](#)

by Mercedes Bern-Klug
(an Affiliate Faculty member of the Program)

An increasing proportion of dying is occurring in America's nursing homes (NH). Family members are involved in (and affected by) medical decision-making on behalf of NH residents approaching the end of life, especially when the resident is cognitively impaired. This article proposes an empirically derived conceptual model of the key factors NH family surrogate decision-makers consider when establishing or changing goals of care and the iterative process as applied to the NH setting. This model also establishes the importance of family social role expectations toward their loved one as well as the concept, "stance toward dying," as key in establishing or changing the main goal of care. NH staff and physicians can use the model as a framework for providing information and support to family members. Research is needed to better understand how to prepare staff and settings to support family surrogate decision-makers, in particular around setting goals of care. The model can be generalized beyond nursing homes.

[The Role of Patient Engagement in Personalized Healthcare](#)

by Sandra Daack-Hirsch and Colleen A. Campbell
(Sandra Daack-Hirsch is an Affiliate Faculty member of the Program.)

"...shared decision-making that maximizes the role of patients and their family members, as well as allied health professionals, could be an effective way to engage patients in personalized healthcare."

Clinical Research Ethics Consultation Service

We provide free consultation on ethical issues related to research design, tissue banking, genetic research results, informed consent, and working with vulnerable patient populations. In particular, we assist clinical investigators in identifying and addressing the ethical challenges that frequently arise when designing or conducting research with human subjects. These include ethical challenges in sampling design; randomized and placebo-controlled studies; participant recruitment and informed consent; return of individual-level research results; community engagement processes; and more. For more information, [please click here](#).

UIHC Ethics Consult Service

The University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics (UIHC) is currently developing an Ethics Consult Service, the implementation of which is expected in 2014. Questions about this service may be directed to UIHC's Medical Director for Clinical Ethics, Dr. Lauris Kaldjian (lauris-kaldjian@uiowa.edu).



[Health Humanities:](#)
[Building the Future of Research and Teaching](#)

Dates: April 4-5, 2014

Location: College of Public Health Building

This two-day working symposium, sponsored by the Obermann Center, will bring together faculty, staff, students, and community members who are interested in this burgeoning subfield in order to assess current models and discuss potential collaborations at the UI. Several leaders in the field will share their experiences in programming, research, and partner building.

The primary goals for the symposium are to:

1. **Appraise** the current state of the subfield.
2. **Critically assess** the role of the humanities in the study of "health".
3. **Improve understanding** of the opportunities, challenges, and problems faced by researchers and educators in the health humanities.
4. **Generate dialogue and action plans** for future interdisciplinary humanities initiatives.
5. **Connect colleagues at the University of Iowa** and assess the resources we have in place for programming, courses, and research groups that will engage not only those in the health sciences, but also faculty and students in the cultural and performing sectors.

All events are free, but registration is required.



[The Examined Life Conference](#)

Dates: April 10-12, 2014

Location: Carver College of Medicine

The University of Iowa Roy J. and Lucille A. Carver College of Medicine will host its eighth annual three-day conference focusing on the links between the science of medicine and the art of writing.

The program seeks to encourage healthcare professionals, medical educators, patients and their family members to define methods for incorporating writing and humanities into medical education, patient care, and/or professional development schemes; identify the role that humanities activities can play in such activities; identify avenues to pursue that can improve their creative or reflective writing; describe and utilize the mechanics of writing for publication. These objectives are intended to improve practice by giving healthcare professionals and medical educators tools to enhance their understanding: of patients' needs; the ethical, emotional, and psychological requirements of their professions; methods that can be used to increase the well-being and communication skills of medical learners, healthcare providers, and patients; and knowledge of publication practices.

Featured presentations are free and open to the public.

To participate fully, it is recommended that you register for the conference.

Resource Highlight

Bioethics Resources on the Web

National Institutes
of Health

[The NIH's Bioethics Resources on the Web](#) provides a compilation of web links to information of potential use and interest to diverse audiences—biomedical and behavioral researchers, health care professionals, research participants, patients and patient advocates, students and faculty in different disciplines, and the general public. With the aim of helping individuals and groups explore the vast array of issues in bioethics, the information accessible through this portal spans a wide range of topics, including human subjects and animal research, institutional review boards, clinical ethics, international research ethics issues, genetics, and neuroethics, among others. Teaching materials (including case studies and curricula), conferences and events, journals in the field, and academic centers and institutes in bioethics are just a few types of the information accessible through this site, which also provides links to information about bioethics initiatives at the institutes and centers of NIH and other government agencies. For beginning students, as well as more experienced professionals and laypeople, *Bioethics Resources on the Web* offers easy access to key documents and references in the field.

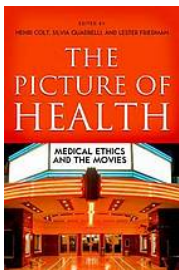
Bioethics in the Literature

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 - Beskow LM, Check DK, Ammarell N. Research participants’ understanding of and reactions to certificates of confidentiality. [AJOB Empirical Bioethics](#). 2014 Feb; 5(1):12-22.
 - Feudtner C, Nathanson PG. Pediatric palliative care and pediatric medical ethics: Opportunities and challenges. [Pediatrics](#). 2014 Feb;133 Suppl 1:S1-7.
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Bioethics in Books



[The Picture of Health: Medical Ethics and the Movies](#)

Henri Colt, Silvia Quadrelli, Lester Friedman (eds.)

Oxford University Press (2011)

Film and literature have long been mined for interesting examples and case studies in order to teach biomedical ethics to students. This volume presents a collection of about 80 very brief, accessible essays written by international experts from medicine, social sciences, and the humanities, all of whom have experience using film in their teaching of medical ethics. Each essay focuses on a single scene and the ethical issues it raises, and the volume editors have provided strict guidelines for what each essay must do, while also allowing for some creative freedom. While some of the films are obvious candidates with medical themes — "Million Dollar Baby", "The Diving Bell and the Butterfly" — some are novel choices, such as "Pan's Labyrinth" or "As Good as it Gets". The book will contain several general introductory chapters to major sections, and a complete filmography and cross-index at the end of the book where readers can look up individual films or ethical issues.

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