

BIOETHICS AND HUMANITIES NEWSLETTER

PROGRAM IN BIOETHICS AND HUMANITIES



February 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

Ethics Issues Identified by Obstetrics and Gynecology Learners

Rachel Mejia, Laura Shinkunas, Ginny L. Ryan

This study evaluated a specific ethics and professionalism curriculum whereby medical students and residents provided a written assessment on various ethical issues encountered during their Ob/Gyn rotations. The goal with this study was to retrospectively evaluate the content of reflections written by medical students and resident physicians and compare content and issues identified by each learner level. The ultimate goal is to use these data to refine and improve the ethics and professionalism curriculum for Ob/Gyn medical learners.

[Read Extended Abstract](#)

Upcoming Events

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

Quotation of the Month

Forgiveness helps individuals mobilize for action after failure has stripped them of a sense of mastery. Forgiveness helps individuals cope with the problematic features of medical practice. It is a necessary part of group life which sustains commitments and mobilizes actors in the face of inevitable failure.

- Charles Bosk, *Forgive and Remember*, p. 179

Publication Highlights

A Randomized Controlled Trial Assessing the Feasibility of Examination Room Versus Conference Room Teaching in a Psychiatric Setting

Linda Madson, Marcy Rosenbaum, Clarence Kreiter, Alison Lynch, Arianna Witt

Teaching in the presence of the patient is an acceptable model in medical settings. Questions have been raised about the appropriateness of this type of teaching (exam room teaching) with patients with mental health issues. This prospective randomized controlled study examined outpatient exam room teaching in a psychiatric setting.

Marcy Rosenbaum is an Affiliate Faculty member of the Program.

[Read Full Article](#)

Nursing Home Social Services Directors who Report Thriving at Work

Jinyu Liu, Mercedes Bern-Klug

Nationally representative data from a sample (n=948) of full-time nursing home social services directors were used to investigate whether knowing characteristics of the social environment at work can help to explain which directors report job thriving. Two-thirds of directors reported they were thriving in their jobs. Multiple regression results show that thriving is increased by job autonomy, being treated like an important part of the team, having enough time to identify and meet resident psychosocial needs, not having to do things that others could do, and being clear what the social services role is.

Mercedes Bern-Klug is an Affiliate Faculty member of the Program.

[Read Full Article](#)

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).

Resource Highlight

*U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs
National Center for Ethics in Health Care*

The National Center for Ethics in Health Care, which serves as VA's authoritative resource for addressing the complex ethical issues that arise in patient care, health care management, and research, produces a variety of material addressing different aspects of health care ethics. The material is released in the form of national policy, National Ethics Committee Reports, National Ethics Teleconferences, periodic center publications, and papers addressing specific issues such as pandemic influenza preparedness. The publications are listed by health care ethics domain and can be accessed by clicking [here](#).

Call for Qualitative and Mixed Methods Research Articles

Narrative Inquiry in Bioethics (NIB) welcomes submitted papers that report on qualitative and mixed methods research studies, including ethnographic, interview, focus group, observational, mixed methods, and related studies in the areas of bioethics, human research ethics, or health care ethics. A variety of approaches to inquiry are welcome, including narrative, phenomenological, grounded theory, ethnographic, and case study approaches. Manuscripts must be organized using a clear hierarchy of headings and subheadings. While authors may establish their own subheading titles, they should have divisions correlating to "background" (no heading necessary), "methods," "results," and "discussion." **Articles may be up to 7,500 words.** This is a larger word limit than many journals offer. We strive to find excellent peer reviewers who will offer authors helpful feedback. The journal has been accepted for inclusion on PubMed/MEDLINE.

Please see *Narrative Inquiry in Bioethics'* [author guidelines](#) page for more details.

Junior Scholars in Bioethics Workshop

The Center for Bioethics, Health and Society at Wake Forest University is pleased to announce an initiative to give junior faculty working in bioethics an opportunity to present works-in-progress to scholars in bioethics and related fields. Commentators will provide constructive feedback to presenters with the goal of fostering scholarship in bioethics. Works-in-Progress will be read in advance by a group of experienced scholars in bioethics and related fields. Each author will present the paper during the workshop. The assigned reviewers will provide oral and written feedback and then the rest of the audience will be invited to participate in offering feedback and asking questions. The expectation is that this discussion will assist scholars in revising their papers prior to submitting them for publication.

Junior faculty working in bioethics are invited to submit abstracts/summaries of 500-750 words of the proposed paper along with a curriculum vitae. Papers should be works-in-progress that have not already been accepted for publication and that will not be submitted for publication until after the workshop at Wake Forest University. A committee of scholars will select three papers for presentation at the Junior Scholars in Bioethics Workshop. Authors will be required to submit a full draft of the paper in advance of the workshop to allow peer reviewers sufficient time to read the papers and prepare their comments.

The Center for Bioethics, Health and Society will reimburse advance purchase coach airfare or mileage and provide lodging and meals for scholars whose works-in-progress are selected for presentation. It is expected the scholars will remain at Wake Forest University for the entire workshop to participate in the discussion of all papers.

May 1, 2014: Submission deadline for Abstracts/Summaries (500-750 words) and CVs. Submissions should be emailed to bioethics@wfu.edu with a copy to Ana Iltis at iltisas@wfu.edu

June 1, 2014: Notification of Selection of Scholars

August 11, 2014: Full draft of papers due. Drafts should be emailed to bioethics@wfu.edu with a copy to Ana Iltis, Ph.D. at: iltisas@wfu.edu

September 18-20, 2014: Bioethics Scholars Weekend at Wake Forest University

Bioethics in the Literature

- McLaughlin JE, Roth MT, Glatt DM, Gharkholonarehe N, Davidson CA, Griffin, LM, Esserman DA, Mumper RJ. The flipped classroom: A course redesign to foster learning and engagement in a health professions school. [Acad Med](#). 2014 Feb; 89(2). [Epub ahead of print]
- Schuster RA, Hong SY, Arnold RM, White DB. Investigating conflict in ICUs – Is the clinicians' perspective enough? [Crit Care Med](#). 2014 Feb; 42(2):328-335.
- Ben-Arye E, Silbermann M, Dagash J, Shulman B, Schiff E. Touching the other's suffering: Cross-cultural challenges in palliative treatment along geopolitical crossroads. [Oncologist](#). 2014 Jan 16. [Epub ahead of print]
- White BD, Jankowski JB, Shelton WN. Structuring a written examination to assess ASBH health care ethics consultation core knowledge competencies. [Am J Bioeth](#). 2014 Jan; 14(1):5-17.
- Miller E, Balmer D, Hermann N, Graham G, Charon R. Sounding narrative medicine: Studying students' professional identity development at Columbia University College of Physicians and Surgeons. [Acad Med](#). 2013 Dec 19. [Epub ahead of print]
- Reed DA, Mueller PS, Hafferty FW, Brennan MD. Contemporary issues in medical professionalism challenges and opportunities. [Minn Med](#). 2013 Nov; 96(11):44-47.
- Topazian RJ, Hook CC, Mueller PS. Duty to speak up in the health care setting a professionalism and ethics analysis. [Minn Med](#). 2013 Nov; 96(11):40-43.

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