Feature: Linking Advance Care Planning, Transitions in Care planning and the Philosophy of Palliative Care

While we use and promote the language of advance care planning (ACP) some confusion about terminology continues. Phrases like “living will” and “advance directive” are used synonymously with ACP. In Ontario, the language which is becoming routinely used is “advance care planning” referring to Speak Up Canada’s *Advance Care Planning Workbook (Ontario edition)*: “Advance care planning is a process of reflection and communication, a time for you to reflect on your values and wishes, and to let others know what kind of health and personal care you would want in the future if you become incapable of consenting to or refusing treatment or other care.” (p.3) Advance care plans which can be expressed verbally, written or recorded are not consent in Ontario but can give guidance to a substitute decision-maker (SDM) when the person is incapable of making their own treatment decisions. From both personal/practical experiences, when a patient has an ACP applicable to the situation, this is a gift that the patient has given to their SDM. It often relieves them of the guilt or regret of having to imagine what the incapable patient would have wanted.

In our ACP work at Humber River Hospital, we have extended the definition of ACP to a broader definition beyond end-of-life care decisions. When our last group of Fellows was with us at the University of Toronto Joint Centre for Bioethics (JCB), we were reminded that ACP could also include planning for people anticipating being unable to make treatment decisions. This could include people living with mental illness, having complex and risky surgeries, or having to anticipate making long-term care decisions at the end stages of a debilitating chronic disease, such as dementia. When viewed from a broader perspective, ACP and the ethics of transitions in care are intimately linked as a process requiring upstream engagement to plan for anticipated future care needs.
I had the privilege of working with a person living with MS who asked me to help her create an ACP. In my role, I took time to explore her values and beliefs. As our discussion evolved, she articulated that how much she values her ability to intellectually and socially interact with her grandchildren. She further shared with me that as long as she can interact with them she would want to live. This was important to state as she was potentially moving to a more functionally dependent state, but her values spoke to the importance of family interactions. If a point came that she could no longer cognitively interact with her family then she would not want to live. I share this story to illustrate a few key points. Primarily, that since this discussion took place before a crisis, it provided her with some control to find herself in a stronger personal position through articulating her values. It also provided future SDMs guidance if treatment decisions had to be made for her.

In relation to transitions in care planning, ACP also fits well within the philosophy of palliative care; however, as Heather Ross, MD, reminded us at a recent JCB seminar the term “palliative care” often frightens people. Consequently we may need to shift our language to terms like “supportive care.” Yet whatever language is used, there is great benefit in going upstream and applying the philosophy of palliative care especially as we deal with greater numbers of people dying from chronic diseases. As bioethicists, I believe we have an opportunity to make a significant contribution to chronic disease management. Our engagement is low tech but can yield high value outcomes. Through encouraging ACP and transitions in care planning with this ever expanding population, we can help ensure people receive the care they need and want. Dr. Ross in her presentation spoke eloquently of the work being done with people who have heart failure. This is a population who has cycles of exacerbations of their illness with admissions and discharges to hospitals. This is a population whom we can get to know as they have multiple contacts with healthcare providers in hospitals and in the community. Through engaging cardiac patients in advance care planning discussions we can, for example, reduce the risk of people with ICDs experiencing painful shocks as they are dying.

Going beyond hospitals into the long term care sector is also very important to quality patient (resident) -centred care. An example of a bioethicist making a difference in the long term care sector was in helping a member of the Nurse Led Outreach Team (NLOT) identify who was the correct decision-maker. In this situation, a family member wanted a feeding tube insertion for a resident at the end stages of dementia. Staff did not feel this was going to benefit their resident and had some moral distress with the direction being requested. After a brief discussion the NLOT nurse was able to state that the resident had a capable spouse who knew his wife would not want a feeding tube. In this case the spouse was the SDM and he gave direction based on his knowledge of spouse’s wishes. A few moments of bioethicist’s time made a difference to the quality of care provided as the resident was in an environment where she was known and supported by staff.

Allocating bioethicist resources to take time to meet people, their families and possible SDMs earlier in the illness trajectory can contribute to both quality-of-care and the effective use of limited resources. Thinking about the above example, a few moments of bioethicist’s time saved a possible ambulance transfer to hospital, triage in the emergency, physician consultations and possible surgery. It is not easy to shift the focus of care because, traditionally, we have been strongly oriented towards in-patient
Feature: Linking Advance Care Planning... (cont’d)

hospital acute care and ICUs. Yet, many of the people admitted to hospital are being done so with exacerbations or problems related to chronic diseases. Bioethicists need to be engaged earlier in the support of those with chronic diseases which will help bridge the gap between quality-of-care and resource use. 

To view the Advanced Care Planning Workbook - Ontario Edition, please visit: http://www.advancecareplanning.ca/community-organizations/download-the-speak-up-campaign-kit/acp-workbook.aspx

JCB Announcements

Congratulations to Professor William (Bill) Harvey who was awarded the 2014 Canadian Bioethics Society Lifetime Achievement Award. Bill was presented with the award at the 25th annual CBS conference held in Vancouver May 28-June 1, 2014. Bill Harvey is Emeritus Professor of Philosophy in the Department of Philosophy, and JCB Member, at the University of Toronto.

Source: www.bioethics.ca/about/awards/lifetime.html


Source: www.bioethics.ca/about/awards/lifetime.html

On June 2, the Provost announced the recruitment of the incoming Dean of Medicine and Vice Provost Relations with Health Care Institutions, Professor Trevor Young.

I am so pleased to warmly congratulate Dr. Young for his willingness to step forward into this position. I have known Dr. Young since he trained in research at U of T, where he completed his PhD in the Institute of Medical Sciences following his clinical training in Psychiatry. He is a highly acclaimed clinician-scientist, a brilliant clinician and an excellent fundraiser who, since 2010, has served as our Chair of the Department of Psychiatry. Dr. Young and I will be working closely on the transition over the next few months as I complete my term at the end of December 2014. I am confident that the Faculty of Medicine will be in expert hands with Dr. Young at the helm, and I wish him every success in leading this great academic enterprise.

- Dean Catharine Whiteside

Source: MedEMail, June 5, 2014
JCB Announcements

The Faculty of Medicine paid tribute to some of its outstanding teachers and gave special recognition to Dean Catharine Whiteside’s leadership at the Faculty’s annual Education Achievement Celebration last week.

The Education Achievement Celebration is an annual awards ceremony recognizing sustained excellence in categories such as teaching, mentorship and advocacy, course development, innovation and leadership within the various Education Portfolios.

Source: medicine.utoronto.ca, May 21, 2014

An-Wen Chan (Principal Investigator) along with Andreas Laupacis, David Moher (Co-Investigators) has received a CHIR grant for 2014-15. This is for “SPIRIT: Improving quality and efficiency of clinical trials protocols”, in the Dissemination Events – Priority program. It is in the amount of $24,998.

The Ethical, Economic, Legal and Social (EELS) Core of the Canadian National Transplant Research Program (CNTRP) produces comprehensive resources and policy documents on topics related to donation and transplantation to shed light on important issues and provide the relevant facts that will help shape policy in Canada. To read their Fast Policy Facts (Linda Wright is a member, and co-authored these documents), please visit: http://www.cntrp.ca/#!fast-policy-facts/c17al

Columbia University has launched ‘Voices in Bioethics: An Online Journal’. Their mission is to provide an online forum for constructive, thought-provoking, and respectful commentary on domestic and international issues in bioethics. To read more, please visit: http://voicesinbioethics.org/

Paediatric Patient and Family-Centred Care: Ethical and Legal Issues by Randi Zlotnik-Shaul (ed.)

This book provides the reader with a theoretical and practical understanding of two health care delivery models: the patient/child centred care and family-centred care. Both are fundamental to caring for children in healthcare organizations. The authors address their application in a variety of paediatric healthcare contexts, as well as the ethical and legal issues they raise.

Each model is increasingly pursued as a vehicle for guiding the delivery of health care in the best interests of children. Such models of health care delivery shape health care policies, programs, facility design, resource allocation decisions and day-to-day interactions among patients, families, physicians and other health care professionals. This book is a valuable resource for paediatricians, nurses, trainees, graduate students, practitioners of ethics and health policy.

The JCB is a member of the Association of Bioethics Program Directors (ABPD), which “represents the leadership of over 65 academic bioethics programs across North America. The ABPD exists to serve the needs of bioethics programs and their directors. The Association’s work helps to foster the development and success of bioethics programs housed in academic institutions, by creating information of use to program directors, acting as a clearinghouse for information, and hosting conversations among peers about issues that are important for those in leadership positions” (http://bioethicsdirectors.net). The ABPD was officially established in 2007 and Barbara Secker, Associate Director, Education and Practice has been an active member since 2008. The JCB is one of only five Canadian ABPD members.

The ABPD meet twice annually, in the spring and the fall. This year’s spring meeting was hosted by the Berman Institute of Bioethics at Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore, MD on April 24, 2014. Major agenda items included: (1) a Philanthropy Workshop where Mark Siegler (Director of the University of Chicago’s MacLean Center for Clinical Medical Ethics), Ruth Faden (Andreas C. Dracopoulos Director, Johns Hopkins Berman Institute of Bioethics) and their respective Development Officers shared their successful fundraising strategies with fellow ABPD members; (2) presentations on the structure and function of member bioethics programs—this year, on the programs at Johns Hopkins University and Union Graduate College-Ichan School of Medicine; and (3) a report of the Metrics Subcommittee that is working to identify ways to demonstrate the value and impact of bioethics programs.

The JCB’s membership in the ABPD is mutually beneficial. At this spring meeting, for example, we gained insight into philanthropic fundraising strategies that may be helpful in the JCB’s efforts with the Faculty of Medicine’s Office of Advancement to identify potential benefactors interested in investing in the JCB (e.g., through naming opportunities, research chairs or studentships). The presentations and discussion regarding the structure and function of members’ bioethics programs highlighted a wide variation in models across North America and the uniqueness of the JCB’s “joint” partnership between the University of Toronto and affiliated healthcare organizations. The Metrics Subcommittee has been the building on the JCB’s Evaluating Excellence in Bioethics report (2010) as one of very few source documents, which attests to our leadership in this important area.

The ABPD fall meeting will be held in conjunction with the American Society for Bioethics and Humanities annual meeting in San Diego in October 2014. A key agenda item for the fall meeting is training program evaluation, which is connected to ABPD’s mandate to explore possible accreditation processes for bioethics programs. This ABPD task force is led by David Magnus (Director, Stanford Center for Biomedical Ethics) and Barbara Secker is a member. The task force’s initial focus is on programs that aim to train practicing healthcare ethicists (or, in the US, independent ethics consultants) working in healthcare organizations. David was a keynote speaker and participant at the JCB-hosted national workshop (December 3–4, 2013) on Ethics Program Evaluation in Canada: Synthesizing Research Evidence and Expert Practice to Improve Ethics Quality in Healthcare funded by the Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR). Look for an update on the fall ABPD meeting in the November issue of the JCB Voice.
Bioethicist, Centre for Health Care Ethics
Lakehead University (Contract)

The Centre for Health Care Ethics (CHCE) at Lakehead University has been in operation for the last 15 years. Since 2007 we have been part of a shared bioethicist program that provides ethics leadership, consultation and support to member institutions. The success of this program demands expansion and we are currently seeking an additional bioethicist with a regional mandate. This is a 0.9 FTE position with potential for conversion into a full time position within the Shared Bioethics Program. The selected applicant will be offered a 12-month, renewable contract, with 3-month probationary period.

The bioethicist will:

a) Develop and conduct a research program in Aboriginal health care ethics as a collaboration of CHCE and Sioux Lookout Meno Ya Win Health Centre; and
b) Provide ethics support for clinical services to Sioux Lookout Meno Ya Win Health Centre, St. Joseph’s Care Group and the Group of Long Term Care Homes; ethics leadership and expertise to the Northern Ontario School of Medicine and Confederation College.

Our ideal candidate will have:

- A Doctoral Degree in a field relevant to bioethics;
- A demonstrable track record of bioethics research and scholarship;
- Experience functioning as a bioethicist in a hospital environment for at least 2 years;
- Skill in interacting with patients, public, staff, faculty and students in negotiating ethical clinical and organizational decision-making; and
- Interest in the relationship of health ethics and culture. Education and experience in interacting with indigenous populations particularly First Nations, rural and remote populations, and with the elderly would be an asset.

Application Review:
Applications will be reviewed starting June 1, 2014 until a suitable candidate has been found.

Interested applicants are invited to submit applications to:
Dr. Jane Taylor, Director
Centre for Health Care Ethics
Lakehead University
955 Oliver Road
Thunder Bay, ON P7B 5E1
Email: chce@lakeheadu.ca

For more information contact us at: 807 343 8126; chce@lakeheadu.ca or visit http://bioethics.lakeheadu.ca.

Lakehead University is committed to creating a diverse and inclusive environment and welcomes applications from all qualified individuals including women, members of visible minorities, Aboriginal persons and persons with disabilities. We appreciate your interest; however, only those selected for an interview will be notified.
Fellowship Opportunities

Post-doctoral Fellowship, McMaster University

McMaster University, Department of Clinical Epidemiology and Biostatistics is seeking a two-year Post-Doctoral Fellow to work in a well-established program of health services research on improving end of life planning and care in acute care hospital and community primary care settings. The fellow’s primary supervisor will be Dr. John You with co-supervision from Dr. Michelle Howard (Department of Family Medicine, McMaster) and Dr. Daren Heyland (Department of Medicine, Queen’s University). The studies involved are iDECIDE (Improving DECision-making about goals of care for hospitalized, eDery patiEnts: A multicentre, interventional study) and iGAP (Improving General practice Advance care Planning). More information can be found at http://www.thecarenet.ca.

Advance Care Planning (ACP) is a communication process wherein people plan for a time when they cannot make medical decisions for themselves. An ACP is a verbal or written description of what kind of care an individual would want (or not want) and the nomination of a substitute decision maker if they are no longer able to speak for themselves (see http://www.advancecareplanning.ca). ACP has been shown to increase the quality of life of dying patients, improve the experience of family members and involved health care professionals, and decrease health care costs. Goals of Care Designation (GCD) is a medical order reflecting “in-the-moment” decisions made in the context of an illness episode used to describe and communicate the general aim or focus of care (e.g., life-prolonging care, comfort care, etc).

The program of research aims to test and implement tools and practices in acute care and primary care settings to improve the uptake of ACP and GCD. The studies involved have sites in BC, Alberta, Ontario and Quebec with varying policies and practices around ACP.

The post-doctoral fellow will work with study investigators and research staff locally and in other provinces to develop, adapt and evaluate tools and resources to be used by patients and health care providers to facilitate ACP/GCD. This will involve working closely with participating hospitals and community family practices to ensure rigour in tool development, data collection and evaluation processes.

This opportunity is supported by a research grant from TVN-Improving Care for the Frail Elderly, a Network Centres of Excellence (http://www.tvn-nce.ca).

Role of the Fellow
To assist the study teams with:

- creating an evaluation framework and metrics for implementation of ACP/GCD
- developing/adapting and testing tools and resources to promote ACP/GCD activities by patients and health care providers
- developing/adapting and testing measures of ACP engagement by patients and health care providers

The fellow will also participate in the TVN Interdisciplinary Training Program activities. The fellow will have a travel allowance of $1,500 each year to fund visits to participating sites across Canada.

Qualifications and Skills:

- PhD in Social Sciences, Health Research Methods or related field
- Familiarity with quantitative and qualitative
Fellowship Opportunities

- Research methods, with an emphasis on quantitative methods
- Familiarity with survey methodology
- Experience applying theoretical models of behavior and system change to interventions
- Familiarity with program evaluation methodology
- Excellent facilitation, prioritization, organization and multi-tasking skills
- Previous experience conducting research in a health care setting would be an asset

Salary
$50,000/year for 2 years. Benefits will be provided.

Application Instructions
Applications will be accepted until June 16, 2014.
Anticipated start date: August 5, 2014.

Applicants should send via email a cover letter outlining their research expertise and interests, a Curriculum Vitae, and 2 to 3 letters of reference to Dr. John You at:

Dr. John You, MD MSc FRCPC
Associate Professor of Medicine, and Clinical Epidemiology & Biostatistics
McMaster University
Email: jyou@mcmaster.ca
tel: (905) 525-9140, ext: 21858

2014 Don Low Communications Fellowship

The Don Low Communications Fellowship supports public health professionals in advancing their communications skills, empowering them with the necessary tools to become effective spokespersons.

The Fellowship is available at the Sheela Basrur Centre and is named in honour of the late Dr. Donald Low, a great public health communicator.

It links public health professionals with communications training opportunities to build leaders who can effectively communicate the role and achievements of public health. Recipients can use the Fellowship for training and skill development activities to enhance communications abilities, create public relations strategies, and learn effective ways to craft messages for journalists, politicians, government officials and the general public.

Eligibility
The Fellowship is open to mid-level and senior-level public health professionals from all disciplines (e.g., nursing, medicine, inspection, nutrition, health promotion) actively working as a practitioner in the Ontario public health sector.

Fellows are eligible to receive this award only once during their professional career.

Award value
Each award is for a maximum of $5,000 CDN. Up to two fellows may be chosen to receive the award each year.

Application deadline: June 16, 2014
Learn more about the 2014 Don Low Communications Fellowship: http://www.sheelabasrurcentre.ca/media-prg_don_low.html

PhD Studentship in the Ethics of Post-Market Pharmaceutical Regulation

A PhD Studentship is available in the Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences at the University of Toronto.
Fellowship Opportunities

Toronto. This position is funded through the Canadian Institutes of Health Research funded grant - SAFER: Study to Articulate a Framework for Ethical Reflection on Post-Market Pharmacovigilance. The candidate will have a background in public health ethics or bioethics and knowledge of qualitative research methods is an asset.

This is a full time graduate position with Dr. Alison Thompson. Dr. Thompson is an Assistant Professor in the Leslie Dan Faculty of Pharmacy, Dalla Lana School of Public Health, and the University of Toronto Joint Centre for Bioethics. Earliest start date is January 2015. For more information, please contact Dr. Thompson at a.thompson@utoronto.ca. The closing date for submissions is the end of September 2014.

Research Associate/Research Fellow, Centre for Biomedical Ethics

The Centre for Biomedical Ethics (CBmE) at the National University of Singapore is seeking candidates for two one-year positions, with the possibility of a one-year renewal, to be appointed at the level of research associate or post-doc research fellow. The associate/fellow will work with Dr. Anita Ho (Associate Professor and Director of Undergraduate Medical Ethics Education), and will conduct research in 1) ethical issues in health care delivery 2) development and assessment of ethics education for professional programs, and/or 3) ethics of reproductive genomics.

Applicants with strong analytical skills and/or qualitative research experience in bioethics are encouraged to apply. Candidates will be considered for the rank of Research Associate if they hold a Master’s degree in philosophy, bioethics or related areas with at least 2 years of relevant bioethics research experience. Post-doctoral applicants with demonstrated promise in research excellence will be considered for the rank of Research Fellow. In addition to dental/medical insurance, housing allowance and travel assistance will be provided (if applicable).

For further inquiries regarding these positions, please contact Dr. Anita Ho (anitaho.ethics@gmail.com). Interested parties should submit their letter of application, curriculum vitae, publication list, as well as the names and contact information for three referees by July 16, 2014 to:

Ms Iris Wee
Manager
Centre for Biomedical Ethics
Dean’s Office, Yong Loo Lin School of Medicine
1E Kent Ridge Road,
Level 11, NUHS Tower Block,
Singapore 119228

Fax: +65 6778 9527
Email: iris_wee@nuhs.edu.sg

Early submission is highly encouraged. Only shortlisted candidates will be notified.
The University of Toronto’s Health History Group presents “The Public’s Health: a symposium on public health histories”

We are pleased to announce a request for submissions on the topic “The Public’s Health.” This interdisciplinary conference will be of interest to anyone thinking about the history of public health from diverse, unique perspectives. The conference will take place on March 6 and 7, 2015 at the University of Toronto. Friday will be an academic day with a series of peer-reviewed sessions on the Public’s Health. Saturday will be a public day, with a series of public talks by contributors to the civic debate regarding definitions of the Public’s Health, and showcasing the work of high-school students who will have been engaged in a Collaborative Public History Project (Discovering the Public’s Health) during the summer and fall of 2014. A reception will be held on the Friday evening of the first day and will feature a keynote address.

We encourage proposals for original papers for our academic day from individuals and groups. We invite abstracts from students and scholars in the social sciences and humanities, from those with clinical backgrounds, and from any others who are engaged in thinking about the public’s health. The following areas or themes are of particular interest:

1. Who defines “the public” and therefore its health?
2. Global public health in Toronto: immigrants, refugees and visitors bring the world here and change how we think about health
3. Toronto’s place in global health
4. Community engagement: its power and its complexities within the history of public health research
5. Indigenous health: Toronto’s Aboriginal communities and their historical and current health practices
6. History of ethics in public health research
7. The built environment: changing views and their effects on health
8. Epidemics and pandemics through time: cholera, diphtheria, polio, SARS, H1N1, etc.

Presentations will be limited to 20 minutes, with additional time for discussion. All papers must present original, unpublished work.

Those who are interested should send an abstract of no more than 250 words to conference@toronto-healthhistory.ca. Please send your submission as a Microsoft Word document. Abstracts must be received by August 31, 2014. All submissions will be judged on their merits by the Program Committee according to the following criteria:

1. Relevance to the theme and/or priority areas
2. Organization and clarity of the abstract
3. Interest to an interdisciplinary audience

The author listed as primary contact will be notified of the committee’s decision regarding their abstract submission by October 31, 2014.

About the Organizing Committee:

In 2010, a group of historians, librarians, archivists, healthcare professionals, educators and students at
Calls for Submission

The University of Toronto came together as a result of their shared interest in heightening the visibility of scholars, resources and collaborative research opportunities in healthcare history at the University of Toronto. Since then, the group has grown to include representatives from the faculties of medicine, pharmacy, social work, information, occupational therapy, kinesiology and physical education, nursing, the Dalla Lana School of Public Health, Public Health Ontario, the Institute for the History and Philosophy of Science and Technology, the Thomas Fisher Rare Book Library, and the Royal Ontario Museum. By initiating a conference in Toronto in 2012 on healthcare and its history, we had hoped to achieve four main goals: appreciating our history, building a community, fostering collaborations, and preserving our past. We are pleased to report that we achieved those goals at our first conference, “Taking Toronto’s Healthcare History,, and now intend to build on them with this second conference, on “The Public’s Health.”

For more information, please visit the website: [http://torontohealthhistory.ca](http://torontohealthhistory.ca).

8th Postgraduate Bioethics Conference 2014

The Postgraduate Bioethics Conference invites abstracts for its forthcoming conference on September 4-5, 2014 to be held at the University of Southampton. The Postgraduate Bioethics Conference is a highly prestigious annual conference aimed at doctoral researchers whose research involves bioethical analysis. Over the past seven years, the Postgraduate Bioethics Conference has become established as a leading environment for doctoral candidates to meet, network and present their work. A competition is also being run which, subject to peer review, will give winning papers the opportunity to be published in the Medical Law Review, Health Care Analysis and possibly two other bioethical journals.

The theme for this year’s Postgraduate Bioethics Conference is ‘Health Law and Bioethics at the Frontiers of Innovation’ and invites participants to reflect on the impact of new developments affecting bioethics and health and how these are informed and influenced by various ethical, moral, social, practical, legal and scientific viewpoints.

The Conference is a two-day event, designed to give opportunities for doctoral researchers involved in bioethical research to present their current work. The conference will also include four keynote addresses from senior scholars in their respective fields and two workshops, entitled ‘Bioethics in Practice’ and ‘Publishing in Bioethics’. Confirmed keynote speakers include Professor John Bryant (University of Exeter/University of Cambridge), Professor Bobbie Farsides (Brighton and Sussex Medical School), Professor John Harris (University of Manchester), Professor Jonathan Montgomery (Chair of Nuffield Council on Bioethics, Chair of Health Research Authority and UCL) and confirmed workshop speakers include Professor Ruth Chadwick (University of Cardiff/University of Manchester), Dr John Coggon (University of Southampton), Dr Sara Fovargue (University of Lancaster) and Professor David Hughes (Swansea University). The Conference organisers welcome submissions from a range of disciplines relevant to bioethics including, but not limited to, medical ethics, medicine, healthcare, life sciences, philosophy, social sciences, law and public policy.

Submissions should be e-mailed to the conference organisers Emma Nottingham and Alexander Chrysanthou by June 10, 2014 to: [postgrad.bioethics@outlook.com](mailto:postgrad.bioethics@outlook.com). Abstracts should be in English, no more
Calls for Submission

than 300 words, and in Word or preferably PDF format. Please note that you must be a registered postgraduate student, and we will only accept abstracts sent from a valid institutional email address.

There will be an opportunity for those not giving a paper to register as attendees from July 25, 2014. It is hoped that registration will be free for participants and attendees. The Postgraduate Bioethics Conference cannot cover the cost of travel and accommodation. Limited places for accommodation and breakfast in halls of residence will be available at a discounted rate.

• Call for Members •

PHO’s ERB: Call for Members

Public Health Ontario’s Ethics Review Board (ERB) (http://www.publichealthontario.ca/en/About/Pages/Ethics-Review-Board.aspx) is currently seeking to recruit new members, including individuals with a background in public health research, as well as community members. Individuals with expertise in laboratory methods or research experience in any public health discipline, particularly with large population-based data would be considered an asset. Community members with an understanding of the study participant perspective are desired (either direct experience as a study participant or indirect experience as a family member of a study participant). Of particular relevance would be individuals with experience in community and social service settings, or participation in a school setting.

Public Health Ontario’s ERB plays a vital role in ensuring that research and other initiatives such as evaluation, surveillance, and quality improvement projects under the auspices of Public Health Ontario (PHO) and eligible public health units are conducted in a manner that is consistent with Tri-Council Policy Statement: Ethical Conduct for Research Involving Humans, second edition (TCPS2) as well as other relevant regulations, policies, and guidelines. Members of the ERB are responsible for complete and timely independent ethics review of public health initiatives in Ontario. The ERB meets once a month throughout the year at PHO’s head office in Toronto.

Interested candidates should submit an application electronically that includes all the following items:
1. Completed Application Form
2. Curriculum Vitae or resume
3. Expression of interest letter

Please send this information to the attention of Carly Heung, ethics program analyst, at carly.heung@oahpp.ca by June 16, 2014. Applications will be reviewed and evaluated by PHO. Successful candidates will be notified in writing. Individuals selected for appointment to the ERB will be asked to declare any actual or potential conflicts of interest and to sign a confidentiality agreement.

For a list of current members, please visit the Ethics Review Board web page (http://www.publichealthontario.ca/en/About/Pages/Ethics-Review-Board.aspx). If you have any questions regarding the application process, please contact Carly Heung at carly.heung@oahpp.ca or 647-260-7341.

For more information, please visit: http://www.publichealthontario.ca/en/ServicesAndTools/ResearchAndEducationSupport/Pages/Call-For-Members.aspx#U5YwaijyTTo
ICN Conference in Seoul 2015

The International Council of Nurses is delighted to invite you to submit an abstract for the ICN Conference in Seoul, Republic of Korea in June 2015. This gathering of thousands of nurses will explore the importance of cross-cultural understanding and global cooperation in nursing.

The Conference will provide opportunities for nurses to build relationships and to disseminate nursing knowledge and leadership across specialties, cultures and countries. The three ICN pillars – Professional Practice, Regulation and Socio-Economic Welfare – will frame the scientific programme and the dynamic exchange of experiences and expertise.

The deadline for abstracts is October 7, 2014. For more information on the submission process, please visit: http://www.icn2015.com/.

Early Career Advisor Program

The American Society for Bioethics + Humanities (ASBH) Early Career Advisor Program gives individuals early in their career in bioethics or the humanities the opportunity to present a paper or project to more experienced members of ASBH. There will be an opportunity for advisors and authors to discuss their project/paper over a 1-1.5 hour meeting in San Diego. The expectation is that this discussion will assist early career members of ASBH to advance toward publication or completion of a specific paper or project that is significant for their career. Application forms and CVs must be submitted by August 1, 2014.

ASBH also seeks volunteers to help review applications and identify possible advisors. Volunteers will be asked to review applications between August 4 and August 13, 2014 to determine the eligibility of applicants and to recommend advisors for eligible papers/projects. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Brianna Wixted (bwixted@asbh.org) by July 1, 2014. If you have any questions about the Early Career Advisor Program, please contact Ana Iltis (iltisas@wfu.edu).
Recent Publications


Bagheri A. “Biomedical Ethics in Iran: An Application of Islamic Bioethics” (ed). Eubios Ethics Institute, 2014


Breslin J. Should there be an age cut-off for publicly-funded chemotherapy? Hospital News. June 2014:21


Recent Publications


SAVE THE DATE

3rd Annual JCB Research and Awards Celebration
Wednesday, June 25, 3:00 to 5:00 pm
Lobby and Auditorium, 6th Floor, 155 College Street

Please join us to celebrate the accomplishments of our students, graduates, faculty, and ethicists in 2013-14! As we did last year this event includes award presentations and our Innovation Showcase Poster Display & Competition. Awards will be presented at 3:15 – 4:00 pm followed by good finger foods, drinks (cash bar, including non-alcoholic beverages), and congenial conversation. Posters will be available for viewing all afternoon.

A formal meeting invite will be sent out to you in early May.
Details about the poster competition will be included in the meeting invite.

SEND US YOUR ACCOMPLISHMENTS

At the celebration we also want to celebrate any awards that you have received during the 2013-14 academic year including teaching awards, appointments and promotions, student awards, and other awards and achievements of note. Please send all details to Rhonda Martin at jcb.ea@utoronto.ca by 11 June 2014.

For additional information please contact Rhonda Martin <jcb.ea@utoronto.ca>.

See you at the celebration!!
Grant Writing Workshop
3153 Medical Sciences Building, 1 King’s College Circle, Toronto
Thursday, June 19, 2014 (9:00 am - 1:30 pm)
Click HERE to RSVP. Please respond by Friday, June 13, 2014

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<tr>
<td>9:00 am</td>
<td>Welcome &amp; Introduction&lt;br&gt;George Fantus, MD, FRCPC&lt;br&gt;Associate Dean, Research</td>
<td>MSB 3153</td>
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<tr>
<td>9:05 am</td>
<td>“How to Write a Successful Grant”&lt;br&gt;Dr. Reinhart Reithmeier&lt;br&gt;Department of Biochemistry</td>
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<td>9:40 am</td>
<td>“Identifying Other Funding Options”&lt;br&gt;Dr. Mary L’Abbe,&lt;br&gt;Chair of the Department of Nutritional Sciences</td>
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<td>10:10 am</td>
<td>“Grant Development &amp; Editorial Review”&lt;br&gt;Della Saunders, PhD&lt;br&gt;Grant Development Manager, Faculty of Medicine Research Office</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:20 am</td>
<td>“CIHR Program Updates”&lt;br&gt;CIHR Representative</td>
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<td>11:30</td>
<td>Coffee Break &amp; Networking</td>
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<td>12:00 pm – 1:30 pm</td>
<td>Writing Breakout Sessions: &lt;br&gt;Basic Sciences: &lt;br&gt;• Dr. Michelle Bendeck, Department of Laboratory Medicine and Pathobiology&lt;br&gt;• Dr. Justin Nodwell, Chair, Department of Biochemistry&lt;br&gt;• Dr. Ali Salahpour, Department of Pharmacology &amp; Toxicology&lt;br&gt;Clinical Sciences:&lt;br&gt;• Dr. Nancy Salbach, Department of Physical Therapy&lt;br&gt;• Dr. James Scholey, Department of Medicine&lt;br&gt;• Dr. Angela Colantonio, Department of Occupational Science and Occupational Therapy&lt;br&gt;Public Health/Health Services/Epidemiology:&lt;br&gt;• Dr. Paula Rochon, Department of Medicine&lt;br&gt;• Dr. Sharon Straus, Department of Medicine&lt;br&gt;• Dr. Ross Upshur, Department of Family &amp; Community Medicine</td>
<td>MSB 2173, MSB 3153, MSB 4279</td>
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</table>

Questions? Need Assistance? MSB has an accessible entrance at 1 King’s College Circle. We will be happy to make appropriate accommodations for other needs you may have while attending this event. Please contact joanna.king@utoronto.ca Tel: 416-978-8316
We invite you to the historic campus of Georgetown University, in the heart of Washington, DC, to participate in IBC 40, the Kennedy Institute of Ethics five day Intensive Bioethics Course.

The course, one of the world’s premier courses on bioethics, is designed to give healthcare practitioners, policymakers, clinical researchers, and anyone interested in bioethics, a deeper understanding of key principles of bioethics. Plenary lectures are followed up by small group discussions.

For more information, please visit: http://ibc40.org/.

June 10, 2014
Ethics Grand Rounds: “Ethical Issues in Organ Donation & Transplantation: Challenges, controversies, & opportunities”

Presenter: Daniel Buchman, PhD, Senior Ethicist, Trillium Health Partners

Objectives:
- To map the ethical landscape in organ donation & transplantation
- To describe how ethical issues are approached and addressed in organ donation & transplantation
- To learn some of the contemporary ethical challenges in organ donation & transplantation

12:00 to 1:00 p.m.; Credit Valley Hospital – Auditorium, Mississauga Hospital – Auditorium and Queen-sway Health Centre – Long Branch, Toronto, ON. All are welcome to attend.

June 11, 2014
Bioethics Grand Rounds, The Hospital for Sick Children: “Getting Real About Patient & Family-Centred Care in Practice”

Panel Presentation.

Noon to 1:00 p.m.; The Hospital for Sick Children, 4132 Media Room, Toronto.

June 16-20, 2014
EHPIC 2014 - Interprofessional Education and Faculty Development Course (IPE1402-C)
Toronto, ON

In Canada and abroad, government and health care sectors have placed importance on developing a curriculum to change the way health professionals are educated and trained.

This course will enhance your natural leadership abilities to teach excellence in Interprofessional Education (IPE), helping to build an IPE community of leaders in healthcare.

Coordinated by the Centre for Interprofessional Education and a team of health professionals across the health sciences faculties at the University of Toronto, the certificate course is designed for health professionals interested in interprofessional education and interprofessional practice.

For more information, please visit: https://events.cepdtoronto.ca/website/index/110900.
June 19, 2014
Research Ethics Discussion Groups: Brown Bag Presentation

Speaker: Maqbool Sharifi, Student, Joint Centre for Bioethics, University of Toronto.
“A cross cultural comparison of research ethics boards”

33 Russell Street, 3rd floor, RS-T321, 12:00 to 1:00 PM. Bring your lunch. Coffee, tea and cookies will be served.

Questions? Please contact susan.pilon@camh.ca, Manager, Research Ethics Office.

June 20, 2014
Global Health: Communicating about Non-Communicable Disease Series

Speaker: Dr. Abdallah Daar, Professor of Public Health Sciences and Surgery, University of Toronto, Senior Scientist and Director of Ethics and Commercialization, Sandra Rotman Centre/University Health Network.

12:00 to 1:00 PM. The Global Health Division at the DLSPH is continuing to host a new monthly lunch hour lecture series exploring the intersection between global health and non-communicable diseases. Those invited to speak will continue to include leading experts from across UofT, who will inform, engage and inspire on topics ranging from the governance and economics of NCDs to emergency settings and NCDs.

To RSVP, please visit: https://www.eventbrite.com/event/7772956121

June 30-July 4, 2014
Ethics Teacher Training Course
Dubrovnik, Croatia

The Ethics Teacher Training Course (ETTC) is designed to advance pedagogical capacity for ethics teaching and improve the quality of ethics education around the world.

This Ethics Teacher Training Course in Dubrovnik, Croatia is a collaborative effort involving UNESCO, the Inter University Center in Dubrovnik (IUC), the School of Medicine at the University of Zagreb, and the Croatian National Commission for UNESCO. The Course offers a unique opportunity for participants from Croatia and from other countries in the region to enhance their teaching capacities in ethics.

Ethics Teacher Training Course is conducted by a team of international experts with extensive experience in ethics education. Experts from the University of Zagreb will also take part in the course.

A successful candidate for the Course will have a Master’s or higher degree (in areas such as law, medicine, philosophy, ethics, or social sciences), experience or future plans of teaching ethics, and a good command of English language.

Deadline for registration: April 14, 2014

For more information: Please contact Mr Irakli Khodeli at Bioethics Section of UNESCO (i.khodeli@unesco.org); or visit the website http://www.unesco.org/bio-ethics
July 14-16, 2014
Health Technology Assessment for Decision Makers
Halifax, NS

An intensive course on pragmatic HTA tools for decision makers, industry representatives, and researchers.

- Review and appraise clinical evidence
- Assess and interpret cost-effectiveness analyses
- Identify ways to address social and ethical issues through HTA

Registration Deadline: **June 30, 2014**
Please visit the website for course details: [http://theta.utoronto.ca/HTAI](http://theta.utoronto.ca/HTAI)

July 18-19, 2014
2014 Conference: New Opportunities, New Challenges: Exploring the Ethical Boundaries of Pediatric Research
Seattle, WA

In July 2005, Seattle Children’s hosted its first annual pediatric bioethics conference, entitled Current Controversies in Pediatric Research Ethics. Now, a decade later, we revisit the topic as we focus on the changing and challenging world of pediatric bioethics – New Opportunities, New Challenges: Exploring the Ethical Boundaries of Pediatric Research. An impressive lineup of speakers will examine a wide range of questions and issues:

- Parents of seriously ill children are often desperate for new therapies, even if in early phase trials. Is truly voluntary consent possible in such a situation?
- Social media allows researchers to “eavesdrop” on adolescent behavior. Should there be constraints on this type of investigation?
- Is it ever acceptable to conduct research in developing countries that would be considered inappropriate in the United States?
- If hospitals set up biobanks for research, what is needed to ensure public trust?

For more information or to register, please visit: [http://www.seattlechildrens.org/pediatric-bioethics-conference/](http://www.seattlechildrens.org/pediatric-bioethics-conference/).

August 13-15, 2014
International Conference on End of Life: Law, Ethics, Policy and Practice 2014
Brisbane, Australia

The Conference will provide a global forum at which health law scholars, bioethicists, legal and health practitioners, and health law and bioethics institutions can meet to discuss and present on law, ethics, policy and practice relating to the end of life, in particular around the conference’s four sub-themes:

1. Withholding and withdrawal of potentially life-sustaining treatment (e.g. advance care planning, futile treatment)
2. Palliative care and terminal sedation
3. Euthanasia and assisted suicide
4. Determination of death and organ and tissue donation

For more information, please visit: [http://icelconference2014.com/](http://icelconference2014.com/)

September 9-12, 2014
International Congress on Palliative Care
Montreal, QC
The Congress will mark its 20th anniversary this year and will also celebrate the important contribution of McGill University to Palliative Care worldwide over the last 40 years. In addition to a top-notch scientific programme, this year will include exciting social events, increased networking opportunities and morning self-care activities, as well as a retrospective of images and memorabilia from past Congresses. For more information, please visit: [http://www.palliativecare.ca/](http://www.palliativecare.ca/).

**September 10-12, 2014**

**3rd World Congress of Clinical Safety (3WCCS)**
Madrid, Spain

This Spain Congress is organized by IARMM to improve and promote the science and technology of better safety in both risk and crisis management. The congress covers a wide range of topics such as patient safety, medication safety, infectious disease outbreak, and other related subjects. For more information, please visit: [http://iarmm.org/3WCCS/](http://iarmm.org/3WCCS/)

**October 2-4, 2014**

**European Association of Centres of Medical Ethics (EACME) Annual Conference**
Lille, France

Frailty, vulnerability and social participation. Ethical, Social and Political Challenges for an Inclusive Society.

The Center for Medical Ethics, Ethics Department, Catholic University of Lille, 41, Rue du Port 59016 Lille, France

Tel.: 0033-3-20.13.40.46
Fax: 0033-3-20.13.41.46
E-mail: eacme2014@univ-catholille.fr

**November 10-12, 2014**

**Priorities 2014**
Melbourne, Australia

Priorities 2014 is the biennial conference of the International Society on Priorities in Health Care (ISPHC). The 10th International Conference will be held in Melbourne, Australia.

The International Society on Priorities in Health Care was formed in 1996 to strengthen the theory and practice of priority setting in health care. It provides the leading international forum in which health researchers, clinicians and managers involved in priority setting come together to exchange ideas and experiences. We are extremely excited and proud to bring the Society's 10th world congress to the beautiful city of Melbourne this year.

The theme for Priorities 2014 is “Examining the Past and Contemplating the Future – 20 Years of Priority Setting”.

For more information, please visit: [http://www.priorities2014.com](http://www.priorities2014.com)

For conference inquiries please contact:
Mahaela Jackson, Deakin Event Management Services
T: +61 3 9244 5435, E: events@deakin.edu.au
Seminars, Events & Conferences

November 10-13, 2014
Fourth International Bioethics, Multiculturalism and Religion Workshop On Social Responsibility
Mexico City, Mexico

The meeting in México will consist in a three-day workshop where bioethics experts from Buddhism, Christianity, Confucianism, Daoism, Hinduism, Islam, Judaism and Mesoamerican traditions will gather to discuss different papers submitted for this occasion. The collection of these papers will result in the publication of a book. As means of publicity and involvement of university community and the public we suggest to organize at Anahuac University one or two open events on topics related to sensible bioethics issues in the light of human rights. For more information, please visit: http://www.unescobiochair.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=190%3Afourth-workshop-on-social-responsibility-in-bioethics&catid=38%3Abioethics-multiculturalism-and-religion-&lang=en

June 19-23, 2015
International Council of Nurses 2015 Conference
Seoul, Republic of Korea

The Conference will provide opportunities for nurses to build relationships and to disseminate nursing knowledge and leadership across specialties, cultures and countries. The three ICN pillars – Professional Practice, Regulation and Socio-Economic Welfare – will frame the scientific programme and the dynamic exchange of experiences and expertise.

Featured plenary speakers will bring inspiration and the latest information on the nursing workforce and workplace, ethics/human rights, clinical care and patient safety. Concurrent sessions, symposia and posters will address these issues plus developments in nursing education, pandemics/disasters, care systems and access, technology, regulation and the history of nursing. The Conference will also be the venue for ICN Network meetings and thought provoking main sessions – including a debate on a priority issue for the profession. For more information, please visit: http://www.icn2015.com/.

JCB Seminars will resume in September.

Join us on Wednesdays at The Joint Centre for Bioethics
155 College Street, Room 108 (first floor).
Submission & Contact Information

The purpose of this newsletter is to facilitate communication among people interested in bioethics throughout the Joint Centre for Bioethics, participating institutions and elsewhere. The newsletter is published and distributed by email at the beginning of each month. If you would like to receive the newsletter, please contact:

Editor: Laurie Bulchak
Email: newseditor.jcb@utoronto.ca
Fax: (416) 978-1911

Submissions to the newsletter must be made by the 20th of the preceding month.
Previous issues of the newsletter are posted on our website at:
http://www.jointcentreforbioethics.ca/enewsletter/enewsletter.shtml

The University of Toronto Joint Centre for Bioethics

The Joint Centre for Bioethics (JCB) is a partnership among the University of Toronto; Baycrest Health Sciences; Centre for Addiction and Mental Health; Centre for Clinical Ethics, a joint venture of Providence Healthcare, St. Joseph’s Health Centre and St. Michael’s Hospital; Holland Bloorview Kids Rehabilitation Hospital; The Hospital for Sick Children; Humber River Hospital; Mount Sinai Hospital; North York General Hospital; Sunnybrook Health Sciences Centre; Toronto Central Community Care Access Centre; Trillium Health Partners; and University Health Network (Princess Margaret Hospital, Toronto General Hospital, Toronto Rehabilitation Institute and Toronto Western Hospital).

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