

# Bioethics and Humanities Newsletter

PROGRAM IN BIOETHICS AND HUMANITIES, CARVER COLLEGE OF MEDICINE

October 2019

## UPCOMING EVENTS

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

## QUOTATION OF THE MONTH

“The current model for measuring physician performance creates both an unattractive working environment for physicians and the potential of harm to patients from overtreatment. Physician performance measurement should be decoupled from RVU production, which, in fact, was never designed to assess professional behavior.”

To read more, click here:  
Nurok et al. [JAMA. 2019](#)

## UIHC ETHICS CONSULT SERVICE

This service is a resource for patients, family members, or health professionals at UIHC who would like help addressing an ethical question or problem related to a patient’s care. Consults can be ordered by UIHC clinicians through EPIC. Consults can also be requested by calling (319) 356-1616 and asking for the ethics consultant on call. For more information, [click here](#).



*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](#)

## CLINICAL RESEARCH ETHICS 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, [click here](#).

## READING ETHICS AT UIHC

If you are interested to see what the UIHC Ethics Subcommittee was reading in September, click on the following links ([article 1](#); [article 2](#))



## HISTORY OF MEDICINE SOCIETY

The University of Iowa History of Medicine Society invites you to visit the [John Martin Rare Book Room website](#). On this website you will find resources, [digital exhibits](#), [videotaped lectures](#), and news/highlights.

For a list of the University of Iowa History of Medicine Society 2019-2020 Presentations and Events, [click here](#).

## PROGRAM HIGHLIGHT

### PERSONAL-PROFESSIONAL COMPASS



The purpose of the Carver College of Medicine **Personal-Professional Compass** program is to help medical students understand, articulate, and integrate their personal and professional values and goals as they navigate their way through the four years of medical school. This program will promote students' growth as humanistic professionals through written reflections on personal experience, readings from the literature of medicine and the humanities, and ongoing dialogues within a community of peers and mentors. Written reflections will culminate in the capstone project of writing a fourth-year personal statement for residency applications. To learn more about the Personal-Professional Compass, [click here](#).

Co-Directors of the Personal-Professional Compass:

Brittany Bettendorf, MD (writing/humanities)

Lauris Kaldjian, MD, PhD (ethics/humanities)

## PUBLICATION HIGHLIGHT

“Wisdom in Medical Decision Making” - by L.C. Kaldjian

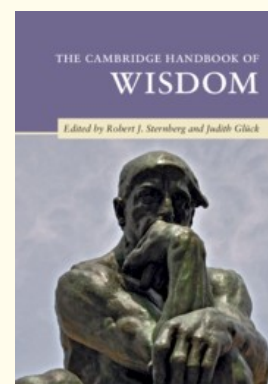
In: *The Cambridge Handbook of Wisdom*

Edited by R.J. Sternberg and J. Glück

[Cambridge University Press, 2019](#)

*The Cambridge Handbook of Wisdom* is a comprehensive review of the philosophical and sociocultural foundations of wisdom written by specialists in the field. This handbook is separated into eight parts: (1) foundations of wisdom, (2) conceptions of wisdom, (3) measures of wisdom, (4) the development of wisdom, (5) cultural perspectives on wisdom, (6) wisdom and other psychological constructs, (7) wisdom in action, and (8) conclusions. Dr. Lauris Kaldjian, Director of the Program in Bioethics and Humanities, wrote a chapter under Part 7, entitled “Wisdom in Medical Decision-Making.”

For more information on *The Cambridge Handbook of Wisdom*, [click here](#).



## HISTORY OF MEDICINE SOCIETY

### OCTOBER PRESENTATION

The University of Iowa History of Medicine Society

invites you to hear:



### *Black Bodies, Medical Science, and the Age of Emancipation*

**Leslie Schwalm**

Professor, History

Chair, Gender, Women's & Sexuality Studies

University of Iowa

**Date:** Thursday, October 24, 2019

**Time:** 5:30-6:30 pm

**Location:** Kelch Conference Room, CBRB

## EXAMINED LIFE CONFERENCE

**Dates:** October 24-26, 2018

**Location:** Medical Education Facility (MERF), Carver College of Medicine



The University of Iowa Roy J. and Lucille A. Carver College of Medicine will host its 13th annual three-day conference focusing on the links between medicine and the arts. The program seeks to encourage healthcare professionals, medical educators, patients and their family members to define methods for incorporating writing, humanities, and the arts into medical education, patient and self care, and/or professional development schemes; identify the role that writing, humanities, and the arts can play in such activities; identify avenues to pursue that can improve their creative or reflective writing; and describe and utilize the mechanics of writing for publication. Upon completion of this conference the participant will be able to identify tools to enhance their understanding of medical education, patient and self care, and/or professional development needs; discuss the ethical, emotional, and psychological requirements of these needs; describe methods that can be used to increase the well-being and communication skills of medical learners, healthcare provider, patients and family members; and examine publication practices.

For more information about the conference, [click here](#).

## SUMMER ETHICS FELLOWSHIP FOR MEDICAL STUDENTS

FASPE (Fellowships at Auschwitz for the Study of Professional Ethics) is now accepting applications for its 2020 Medical program.

FASPE Medical is a fully-funded, two-week summer program that uses the conduct of doctors and other medical professionals in Nazi Germany as a launching point and backdrop for an intensive study of contemporary medical ethics. FASPE Medical is predicated upon the power of place. Fellows visit Auschwitz and other sites in Germany and Poland where they consider how to apply the lessons of history to the ethical challenges in medicine today.

In 2020, the program will take place from June 12 to June 26. All program costs are covered, including travel, lodging, and food.

FASPE Medical is open to all current MD and DO students.

The logo for FASPE, consisting of the letters 'FASPE' in a white, serif font, centered on a dark blue rectangular background.

---

To learn more about FASPE and to apply, please visit: [www.faspe-ethics.org](http://www.faspe-ethics.org).

**Completed applications are due by Monday, December 20, 2019.**

If you have any questions, please contact Thorsten Wagner, Executive Director of FASPE, at [twagner@faspe-ethics.org](mailto:twagner@faspe-ethics.org).

## BIOETHICS EDUCATIONAL TOPIC OF THE MONTH

### ETHICAL CHALLENGES OF TRUTH TELLING

#### *Take home points*

- ⇒ Truth telling is an ethical obligation. However, the approach to disclosure of medical information should be tailored to the situation and needs of the patient.
- ⇒ Familiarity with a variety of ethical frameworks illustrates the need to consider persons, actions, context, and consequences when deciding how and when patients should be informed about their medical conditions and care.

#### *Key references*

- ⇒ Avci E. Should physicians tell the truth without taking social complications into account? A striking case. [Med Health Care and Philos.](#) 2018; 21(1): 23-30.
- ⇒ Beauchamp TL & Childress JF. (2009). Principles of Biomedical Ethics, 6<sup>th</sup> ed. New York, NY: Oxford University Press, Inc.
- ⇒ Killackey T, Peter E, Maciver J, & Mohammed S. Advance care planning with chronically ill patients: A relational autonomy approach. [Nurs Ethics.](#) 2019 May 23 [Epub ahead of print]
- ⇒ Kuhnel LA. Getting to the heart of the matter: Navigating narrative intersections in ethics consultation. [Narrat Inq Bioethics.](#) 2019; 9(2): 163-171.
- ⇒ Pellegrino ED. Toward a virtue-based normative ethics for health professions. [Kennedy Instit Ethics J.](#) 1995; 5 (3): 253-277.

## BIOETHICS RESOURCE (CONTINUED)

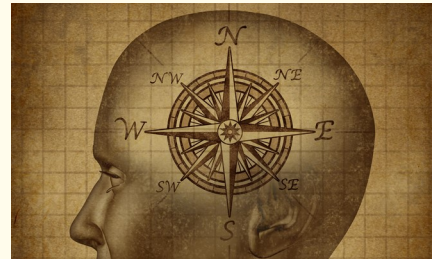
### ETHICAL CHALLENGES OF TRUTH TELLING

- ⇒ Pergert P & Lutzen K. Balancing truth-telling in the preservation of hope: A relational ethics approach. [Nurs Ethics](#). 2012; 19(1): 21-29.
- ⇒ Rosenberg AR., Starks H, Unguru Y, et al. Truth telling in the setting of cultural differences and incurable pediatric illness: A review. [JAMA Peds](#). 2017; 171(11), 1113-1119.
- ⇒ Taylor RM. Ethical principles and concepts in medicine. [Handb Clin Neurol](#). 2013; 118: 1-9.
- ⇒ Zolkefli Y. (2018). The ethics of truth-telling in health-care settings. [Malays J Med Sci](#). 2018; 25(3): 135-139.

#### Tools and Resources

- ⇒ American Board of Internal Medicine Foundation, American College of Physicians-American Society of Internal Medicine, & European Federation of Internal Medicine. Medical professionalism in the new millennium: A physician charter. [Ann Intern Med](#). 2002; 136(3): 243-246.
- ⇒ American Nurses Association (2015). Code of Ethics for Nurses with Interpretive Statements. Silver Springs, MD: American Nurses Association.

*Provided by Nicole Alcorn, DNP/BA, ARNP, PNP-AC/PC, CHPPN*



## BIOETHICS LITERATURE

- ⇒ Blakeley C, Smith DM, Johnstone ED, et al. Parental decision-making following a prenatal diagnosis that is lethal, life-limiting, or has long term implications for the future child and family: A meta-synthesis of qualitative literature. [BMC Med Ethics](#). 2019 Aug; 20: 56.
- ⇒ De Panfilis L, Di Leo S, Peruselli C, et al. "I go into crisis when ...": Ethics of care and moral dilemmas in palliative care. [BMC Palliat Care](#). 2019 Aug; 18: 70.
- ⇒ Driever EM, Stiggelbout AM, Brand PLP. Shared decision making: Physicians' preferred role, usual role and their perception of its key components. [Patient Educ Couns](#). 2019 Aug 12. [Epub ahead of print]
- ⇒ Dugdale L. Patient as gift. [Hastings Cent Rep](#). 2019 Jul; 49: 4-5.
- ⇒ Dunk JH, Jones DS, Capon A, et al. Human health on an ailing planet - historical perspectives on our future. [N Engl J Med](#). 2019 Aug; 381: 778-782.
- ⇒ Gazarian PK, Cronin J, Dalto JL, et al. A systematic evaluation of advance care planning patient educational resources. [Geriatr Nurs](#). 2019 Mar - Apr; 40: 174-180.
- ⇒ Gerdes H, Lantos J. Differing thresholds for overriding parental refusals of life-sustaining treatment. [HEC Forum](#). 2019 Sep 18. [Epub ahead of print]
- ⇒ Jain T, Lu RJ, Mehrotra A. Prescriptions on demand: The growth of direct-to-consumer telemedicine companies. [JAMA](#). 2019 Jul 26. [Epub ahead of print]
- ⇒ Kuhnel LA. Getting to the heart of the matter: Navigating narrative intersections in ethics consultation. [Narrat Inq Bioeth](#). 2019; 9: 163-171.

## BIOETHICS LITERATURE (CONTINUED)

- ⇒ Millum J, Garnett M. How payment for research participation can be coercive. [Am J Bioeth](#). 2019 Sep; 19: 21-31.
- ⇒ Nurok M, Gewertz B. Relative value units and the measurement of physician performance. [JAMA](#). 2019 Aug 5. [Epub ahead of print]
- ⇒ Prasad S, Alwan F, Evert J, et al. How the social contract can frame international electives. [AMA J Ethics](#). 2019 Sept; 21: E742-748.
- ⇒ Puchalski CM, Sbrana A, Ferrell B, et al. Interprofessional spiritual care in oncology: A literature review. [ESMO Open](#). 2019; 4: e000465.
- ⇒ Robertson AC, Fowler LC, Niconchuk J, et al. Application of kern's 6-step approach in the development of a novel anesthesiology curriculum for perioperative code status and goals of care discussions. [J Educ Perioper Med](#). 2019 Jan-Mar; 21: E634.
- ⇒ Singh R, Pushkin GW. How should medical education better prepare physicians for opioid prescribing? [AMA J Ethics](#). 2019 Aug 1; 21: E636-641.
- ⇒ Symons X. Pellegrino, macintyre, and the internal morality of clinical medicine. [Theor Med Bioeth](#). 2019 Jun; 40: 243-251.
- ⇒ Thomas JD. Breaching the professional-personal boundary - an unrecognized risk for burnout. [N Engl J Med](#). 2019 Sep 12; 381: 998-999.



## BIOETHICS NEWS AND EVENTS

- ⇒ [As made-to-order DNA gets cheaper, keeping it out of the wrong hands gets harder](#). NPR, September 24, 2019.
- ⇒ [Vaccination strategy in long-running Ebola outbreak comes under fire](#). STAT News, September 23, 2019.
- ⇒ [Declaring vaccine hesitancy one of the ten biggest health threats in 2019 is unhelpful](#). The Conversation, September 20, 2019.
- ⇒ [A woman's AncestryDNA test revealed a medical secret](#). The Atlantic, September 13, 2019.
- ⇒ [As patients struggle with bills, hospital sues thousands](#). The New York Times, September 3, 2019.

---

To unsubscribe from the Bioethics and Humanities monthly newsletter, [click here](#).

Questions or comments? Email the [Newsletter Editor](#).