

**Center for Clinical Ethics and Humanities in Health Care**

**Bioethics Bulletin**

Editor: Tim Madigan

October 1997
Volume Four, Number Ten

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**Newsletter Distribution**

This newsletter can be delivered to you via e-mail or fax or over the internet (forward your request to: Jack Freer, MD at: jfreer@buffalo.edu). If you prefer fax, call 862-3412 and leave your fax number. We encourage and appreciate the use of e-mail and fax distribution rather than paper for the newsletter.

**Center Listservers**

The Center now maintains two automated e-mail listservers. BIOETH-LIST is primarily designed for those in the Greater Buffalo area and permits subscribers to post to the list. This list is available for posting local announcements, as well as a medium for discussion of relevant topics. It will also distribute the Center newsletter, "Bioethics Bulletin." If you are on this list, you can send a message to the entire list by addressing the message to: BIOETH-LIST@listserv.acsu.buffalo.edu. Archives of old BIOETH-LIST messages are maintained at:<http://listserv.acsu.buffalo.edu/archives/bioeth-list.html>

BIOBUL-LIST is strictly used for distribution of "Bioethics Bulletin" and is mainly for those outside of Western New York. If you have further questions about this service, contact Jack Freer at 887-4852 or at: jfreer@buffalo.edu.

**Upcoming Center Meetings**

The Center currently has three committees: Community Affairs, Education and Research. All Center members are welcome to participate in these committees.

**Community Affairs Ethics Grand Rounds**

Wayne R. Waz, MD, Assistant Professor of Pediatrics at Children’s Hospital of Buffalo, will give a talk on Friday, October 3 at 8:00 AM, in Kinch Auditorium, CHOB, 219 Bryant Street. The topic is "Everyday Ethics: Delivering Dangerous Information." He will discuss how the ways in which clinicians provide information (or sometimes fail to give it) frequently results in ethical dilemmas.

Friday, October 24. Jeffrey Kahn, PhD, MPH, Director, Center for Bioethics, University of Minnesota, will present Ethics Grand Rounds at Millard Fillmore Gates Circle, Webster Hall at 11:00AM. The topic will be [Ethical Issues in Managed Care: Lessons from Minnesota](http://wings.buffalo.edu/faculty/research/bioethics/kahn1100.html) For further information, contact Jack Freer at 887-4852, jfreer@buffalo.edu.

**Reading Group**

The Center’s Reading Group will reconvene its regular meeting, after a summer hiatus. For the Fall semester, the Group will be focusing on the book ***The Healer’s Power*** by Howard Brody, MD. On Wednesday, October 15th at 4:00 PM, Tim Madigan, "Bioethics Bulletin" editor, and Gerald Logue, the Center’s co-director, will discuss Chapters one and two, with an emphasis on Brody's use of Dostoeyesky’s character The Grand Inquisitor. On Wednesday, October 29th at 4:00 PM, local attorney David Lazenski will do a presentation on Chapters three and four. The meetings are held at the Center for Inquiry, 1310 Sweet Home Road, between Maple and Rensch Roads in Amherst. Meetings are open to all interested parties. To receive copies of the reading material, or for further information, contact Adrianne McEvoy at 862-3412.

**Upcoming Lectures**

Wednesday, October 22-Friday, October 24. The State Society on Aging of New York announces its 25th Annual Conference, at the Desmond in Albany, New York. The conference theme is: "Building Generational and Cultural Bridges: A 25th Anniversary." For information, contact Duane A. Matcha, PhD, SSA Program Chair, Department of Sociology, Siena College, 515 Loudon Road, Loudonville, New York 12211-1462; telephone: 518-783-2944; fax: 518-783-4293; e-mail: matcha@siena.edu.

Wednesday, October 8. The Annual Celebration for Planned Parenthood of Buffalo and Erie County, Inc. 12:15 PM at the Buffalo Hyatt, Two Fountain Plaza, Buffalo. Dr. Jocelyn Elders, former U.S. Surgeon General in the Clinton Administration, will be the keynote speaker. Recipients of Planned Parenthood’s Women’s Health Award and the William B. Hoyt Advocacy for Choice Award will also be honored. For details, contact Susan Higgins, Community Relations Coordinator at 853-1779.

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Thursday, October 23. "Children and Grieving Lecture." Hospice Mitchell Campus, 225 Como Park Boulevard, Cheektowaga. J. William Worden, PHD, ABPP, will present a full day conference. Registration is $75.00 and includes continental breakfast, materials, and breaks. To register, call the Life Transitions Center at 836-6460. The lecture is sponsored by Peter C. Cornell Trust and Independent Health.

Friday, October 24. Jeffrey Kahn, PhD, MPH, Director, Center for Bioethics, University of Minnesota, will be present ["Past and Present Lessons in the Ethics of Clinical Research"](http://wings.buffalo.edu/faculty/research/bioethics/kahn930.html) at the Clinical Pharmacology Division, SUNY-Buffalo. This talk will be held at Millard Fillmore Gates Circle, Webster Hall at 9:30AM Dr. Kahn will then speak at city-wide ethics grand rounds at 11:00AM at the same location. The topic will be [Ethical Issues in Managed Care: Lessons from Minnesota](http://wings.buffalo.edu/faculty/research/bioethics/kahn1100.html) For further information, contact Jack Freer at 887-4852, jfreer@buffalo.edu.

Friday, October 31. "Frankenstein: Implications and Consequences." 8:00 PM, Center for Inquiry, 1310 Sweet Home Road, Amherst. Tim Madigan, "Bioethics Bulletin" editor and editor of ***Free Inquiry*** magazine, will speak on the history of the Mary Shelley novel, and H. James Birx, professor of anthropology at Canisius College, will examine the symbolism of the film and its relevance for contemporary debates over genetic engineering, cloning and the creation of life. The climax will be a rare showing of James Whale's classic 1931 movie with Boris Karloff. What better way to spend Halloween night?

Tuesday, December 16. A One-Day Bioethics Symposium in memory of Benjamin Freedman. Sir Mortimer B. Davis-Jewish General Hospital, McGill University, Montreal. The symposium is being sponsored by the McGill Centre for Translational Research in Cancer, the McGill Biomedical Ethics Unit, and the Jewish General Hospital Research Ethics Office. The invited speakers are: Robert Levine, Sam Gorovitz, Abbyanne Lynch, Arthur Caplan, Charles Weijer, Francoise Baylis. For more information, please contact Dr. Gerald Batist, McGill University Centre for Translational Research in Cancer, tel: 514-340-7915; fax: 514-340-7916; e-mail: GBatist@onc.JGH.McGill.ca.

**Hospice Buffalo News**

Plans are underway for the 20th Anniversary (1978-1998) of Hospice Buffalo and the Life Transitions Center. Hospice Buffalo will begin its year-long anniversary celebration this November with National Hospice Month. A Mass of Thanksgiving at the Hospice Mitchell Campus and Hospice Sunday events at area churches are planned. For more information, call the Hospice Marketing Department at 686-8258.

**Center Website now Part of Healthlink.net**

Healthlink.net directory, one of the most comprehensive online directories available specifically for the use of healthcare professionals, has accepted the Center’s website. Linking to this site has helped to further the Center’s online traffic. John Morley and Stan Gelber, Healthlinks.net’s partners, sent the following message: "We are pleased to recognize the work and skill that has gone into your website and happy to be able to contribute to its success by including it in our directory."

**Joint Meeting Announced**

The American Association of Bioethics, the Society for Bioethics Consultation, and the [Society for Health and Human Values](http://iphh.cal.msu.edu/shhv/) will be holding a joint meeting November 5-9, 1997 at the Baltimore Marriott Inner Harbor Hotel, Baltimore, Maryland. The theme is "Visions for Ethics and Humanities in a Changing Healthcare Environment." This theme is meant to provoke reflection on both the perils and possibilities inherent in the rapid changes now taking place in the American healthcare system, and to some extent in healthcare systems throughout the world. Can ethics and humanities assist our society in gaining the wisdom and the political will necessary to realize the possibilities and avoid the perils? As traditional assumptions change about the way medicine and healthcare can be organized, delivered, and financed, does that mean the traditional frameworks of humanistic and value-based thinking will lose their capacity to inform our social decisions? Or will traditional norms and expectations become more important than ever?

Under this broad topic, three themes will organize many of the sessions featured at the meeting. These are "Institutions, Technology, and Culture." Presentations will be grouped around the relationship between ethical and humanities perspectives on institutional and organizational change, new developments in medical science and technology, and the cultural diversity and changing moral attitudes that are of growing importance in American society. For further information, please contact: Joint Meeting, 6728 Old McLean Village Drive, McLean, VA 22101; fax: 703-556-8729; e-mail: shhv@aol.com.

**Student Bioethcs Forum**

The Student Bioethics Forum was established at Princeton University to provide the chance for the discussion of current bioethical issues such as genetic engineering, reproductive rights, infectious diseases, euthanasia, and fetal transplant/research. It is publishing a national bioethics journal this Fall, and is seeking submissions from students around the country. For information, contact Nirva Patel, Public Relations Director, Student Bioethics Forum, at: nbpatel@princeton.edu. The journal will be in hardcopy and present on the website: <http://www.princeton.edu/~bioethic>.

**Broadcast Your Ethics Conference on the Web**

"Ethics Updates" edited by Larry Hinman, University of San Diego (<http://ethics.acusd.edu/>) is providing support for internet broadcast of ethics conferences, colloquia, and lectures. For further information about this free service, please contact Larry Hinman by e-mail (hinman@acusd.edu) or by telephone (619-260-4787) or find out more at <http://ethics.acusd.edu/netmeeting.html>.

**Call for Papers**

The Department of Medical Humanities at East Carolina University School of Medicine will celebrate its 20th anniversary by holding a conference inconjunction with the Spring meeting of the Society for Health and Human Values on March 13-14, 1998, in Greenville, North Carolina. The conference will explore the broad range of medical humanities scholarship. Submissions of abstracts for 20 minute presentations on any topic in the medical humanities may be sent by October 1, 1997 to: Loretta M. Kopelman, PhD, Department of Medical Humanities, East Carolina University School of Medicine, Brody 2S-17, Greenville, North Carolina, 27858.

The Society for Health and Human Values will be holding its Spring Regional Meeting, April 17-18, 1998 at Youngstown State University, Youngstown, Ohio. The theme is "Whose Ethics? Which Medicine? The Tacit and Explicit Development of a Medical Ethic." The conference will consider two types of questions: 1. The Origins of Medical Ethics: Where does medical ethics come from? Is there an implicit or tacit ethic of medicine? Is so, does ethics vary according to profession and specialty? 2. Knowledge of Medical Ethics: Who knows medical ethics? Is it the province of a particular kind of professional or type of person? Or is biomedical ethics a matter of common sense and common knowledge? Paper proposals should be sent in the form of an extended abstract, 500-1,000 words. Please submit 3 copies by October 1, 1997 to: Jody Chidester, Center for Medical Ethics, 3708 Fifth Avenue, Suite 300, Pittsburgh, PA 15213.

On October 22 and 23, 1998, Wilfrid Laurier University in Waterloo, Ontario will host its third annual conference on business and professional ethics. The Laurier conferences are designed to foster dialogue and ongoing linkages between academics and practitioners. They stress interaction between academic researchers in the field of ethics and practitioners.

In recent years a variety of issues regarding the ethical behavior of practicing professionals have arisen in most professions. For the 1998 Laurier Conference on Business and Professional Ethics, the focus will be on the area of education and training in the ethical practice of professions.

The organizing committee invites papers, detailed abstracts or proposals for workshops, seminars and panel discussions on issues pertaining to Ethical Training and Education. Possible topics for submissions include: Can ethical behavior be taught? What is the role of character in ethics training and education? Can professional schools set selection criteria to screen for ethical standards? Should admission to professional practice and licensing reflect ethical concerns? Should ethics be taught? All submissions will be peer reviewed. Selected papers will be published. Please send 3 copies of a finished paper (20 pages, double spaced) or detailed abstract or proposal (2-5 pages, double spaced) clearly defining the objectives, points to be covered, as well as a short biographical note by November 3, 1997 to: Dr. Kim Morouney, School of Business and Economics, Wilfrid Laurier University, 75 University Avenue W., Waterloo, Ontario, N2L 3C5; phone: (519) 884-1970; e-mail: [kmoroune@mach1.wlu.ca](http://wings.buffalo.edu/faculty/research/bioethics/kmoroune%40mach1.wlu.ca).

**Members Corner**

The Members Corner is designed to note research, presentations and published articles and books by Center members. Please send all such information to the newsletter editor so that the Center can keep members informed about the work occurring in this area.

**Comments and Suggestions**

Your comments and suggestions regarding this newsletter are encouraged. Please send them to the Center address, or by e-mail to the newsletter editor, Tim Madigan timmadigan@aol.com. We also need information on upcoming events that would be of interest to Center members. The deadline for the next newsletter is October 15th.