

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

**Bioethics Bulletin**

Editor: Tim Madigan
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**Newsletter Distribution**

The Center newsletter can be delivered to you via e-mail or fax. If you would like to receive the newsletter over the Internet, please forward your request to Jack Freer, MD JFreer@ubmedb.buffalo.edu. If you would like to receive it by fax, call Lisa Bolten at 862-3412 and tell her your fax number. We encourage the use of e-mail and fax distribution rather than paper for the newsletter. Please let us know if there are any people you would like to have placed on our mailing list.

**Upcoming Center Meetings**

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

**Ethics Committee Orientation Project**

A committee has been formed to generate a document (as well as allied video material) which can be used to orient new members of area ethics committees. It will include summaries of basic bioethics issues, the evolution and variable character of ethics committees and consulting, area resources for EC members, classic articles, NY State legal issues and guidelines, and legal cases and statutes. Its next meeting will be on Monday, March 25, 4:00 PM in Room 1104 of the VA Medical Center. Anyone interested in assisting this project is strongly encouraged to attend. For further information, and to receive a package of related documents, please contact Lisa Bolten at the Center (862-3412).

**Ethics Grand Rounds**

There will be an ethics grand rounds on Tuesday, April 9th at 8:00 AM, Millard Fillmore Hospital, Gates Circle, Webster Hall. It will examine the recently published "Support Study." This large multi-center study reported disturbing findings about the hospital care of dying patients. For information, contact Jack Freer JFreer@ubmedb.buffalo.edu. or at 887-4852).

**Center Reading Group**

The Center has established a second reading and research group (beyond the "Health Care Policy Group"), the purpose of which is to discuss in-progress publications and encourage new publications mad allied research activities. The first work being discussed is Stephen Wear's book *Informed Consent: Patient Autonomy and Physician Beneficence Within Clinical Medicine*. The book, published by Kluwer Academic Publishers in 1993, will be going into its second edition, and Wear is interested in receiving comments and suggestions.

The next two meetings will be held on Wednesday, March 13 and Wednesday, March 27 at 4 PM, at the Center for Inquiry, 1310 Sweet Home Road, between Maple and Rensch Roads in Amherst. Look for the twin red-and-white gates. On March 13, Janet Harszlak, a member of the University at Buffalo's department of communications, and a staff associate of the department of medicine, will give a presentation on tactics and results of attempts to enhance patient understanding from the field of communications. The March 27 meeting will focus on Wear's eighth chapter, on "Exceptions to Informed Consent." If you plan to attend, please contact Chuck Jack jackubphil@aol.com. at 862-3412. He will send you a copy of the first eight chapters. Also let him know if you are interested in attending future reading group meetings.

**Upcoming Lectures**

"Science or Pseudoscience? The Investigation of Sea Monsters In Victorian England." Friday, March 8, 7:00 PM. Presenter: Sherrie Lyons, professor of the history of science, Daemen College. The Center for Inquiry, 1310 Sweet Home Road, between Maple and Rensch Roads. For information, contact Tim Madigan timmadigan@aol.com at 636-7571.

"Women's Health Initiative." Thursday, March 14. Presenter: Jean Wactawski-Wende, PhD. Sponsored by the School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences, University at Buffalo and the National Institutes of Health. The Buffalo Marriott. This is part of the UB at Sunrise program. Registration is required ($10.00 fee for full breakfast, $9.00 for UB Alumni Association members). 7:30 - 9:00 AM. Contact Judy Schwendler at 829-2608 for further information.

"Developmental Perspectives on Adolescent Substance Use and Abuse." Friday, March 15. Presenter: Michael Windle, PhD, Research Institute on Addictions. Pediatric Grand Rounds - Sponsored by the School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences, University at Buffalo through the Department of Pediatrics. Children's Hospital, 219 Bryant St., Kinch Auditorium, 8:00 AM - 9:00 AM. Approved for 1.0 hours of AMA/PRA Category 1 credit. For further information contact Marcia Chelminiak, Office of Pediatric Medical Education, 878-7355.

"Traversing the Internet - Accessing Medical Resources on the World Wide Web." Friday, March 15. Presenters: Diane G. Schwartz, MLS, Michael Schlicht, BS. Sponsored by the School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences through the Primary Care Resource Center. This is a hands-on workshop. Seating is limited, so please register early. To be held at room 240, C/F/S Addition, UB South Campus from 1:30 PM - 3:30 PM. Registration fee is $10.00. Approved for 2.0 hours of AMA/PRA Category 1 credit and 2.0 hours of AAFP credit. For further information contact Patricia Krupp at 829-3176.

"Health Status of Refugees in Buffalo." Friday, March 22. Presenter: Sharon Meropol, MD. Pediatric Grand Rounds - Sponsored by the School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences, University at Buffalo through the Department of Pediatrics. Located at Children's Hospital, 219 Bryant St., Kinch Auditorium, 8:00 AM - 9:00 AM. Approved for 1.0 hours of AMA/PRA Category 1 credit. For further information contact Marcia Chelminiak, Office of Pediatric Medical Education, 878-7355.

"Breathtaking Decisions: A Weekend Seminar on Bioethics and End of Life Issues." March 22-23. Sponsored by The Center for Bioethics and Human Dignity, together with the Christian Medical and Dental Society and Trinity International University. Featured Speakers: Nigel Cameron, PhD, Senior Vice President for Academic Planning, Trinity International University and author of \_The New Medicine: Life and Death After Hippocrates\_; and Robert D. Orr, MD, Director of Clinical Ethics and Associate Professor of Family Medicine at Loma Linda University. The seminar will be held from 7:00 to 9:30 PM Friday evening, and from 8:30 AM to 5:00 PM on Saturday. The location is the Wesleyan Church of Hamburg, 4999 McKinley Parkway, Hamburg. Conference registration is $59.00 ($53.00 for members of the Center for Bioethics and Human Dignity or the Christian Medical and Dental Society). To register or to receive further information, call 1-800-417-9999.

"Psychological Aspects of Chronic Pain." Tuesday, April 2. Presenter: Michael Zevon, PhD. Sponsored by the SUNY-Buffalo Department of Anesthesiology. 5:30 PM - 6:30 PM, Cary Room, Research Studies Building, Roswell Park Cancer Institute. For further information, contact Mark Lema at 845-3240.

"Critical Issues in the Treatment of Borderline Personality Disorder: The Clinical-Ethical Interface in the Suicidal Patient." Friday, April 12, 10:30 AM - 12 Noon. Presenter: Micahel Rosenbluth, MD, dept. of psychiatry, University of Toronto School of Medicine. Butler Auditorium, Buffalo Psychiatric Center, 400 Forest Avenue. For further information, contact Josie Olympia, MD, at 862-3642.

"Quinlan: A Twenty Year Retrospective." Friday, April 12 and Saturday, April 13, Princeton University. Conference fee: $250. Space is limited: please register before April 1. For information, write to Sally Nunn, RN, Director of Bioethics, Shore Memorial Hospital, 1 East New York Avenue, Somers Point, NJ 08244-2389; or call 1-609-653-3828.

"Medical Ethics Round Table Discussion." Thursday, April 18, 3:30 PM - 5:15 PM at D'Youville College. The topic: "The Influence of Rationing in Medical Technology on Determining the Value of Human Life" will be chaired by Richard T. Hull, PhD, Professor of Philosophy, SUNY-Buffalo. The session is being held in conjunction with the 24th Conference on Value Inquiry. Registration fee is $5.00; students admitted free. For further information, contact John M. Abbarno, Conference Coordinator, at 881-3200, ext. 6540.

"Protecting the Vulnerable: Public Policy and Human Experimentation." April 18-19; sponsored by the Center for Bioethics at the University of Pennsylvania. For information, contact: Jonathan Moreno, PhD at 215-898-7136.

"Paths to Healing: Caring for Grieving Families and Children." New York State Sudden Infant Death Syndrome Conference. April 18-19. Co- sponsored by Hospice Buffalo. Sheraton Inn, Buffalo. Guest speakers include Rabbi Dr. Earl Grollman, Alan D. Wolfelt, PhD, and Wanda Henry- Jenkins, MHS. The conference will focus on helping personal sorrow, public support and addressing children's needs. Registration includes a luncheon, breaks and materials. The conference will be held from 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM on April 18 and 19. To attend one day, the fee is $75; for both days, the fee is $115. For further information or to receive a conference brochure, call 1-800-336-7437 or 837-7438.

"Rape and Legal Issues." Wednesday, May 1. Presenter: Susan Littler, Chief Resident, Dept. of Gynecology-Obstetrics, SUNY-Buffalo. 9:15 AM, 3rd Floor Amphitheater, Erie County Medical Center.

59th Annual Spring Clinical Day. Saturday, May 11. Sponsored by the Medical Alumni Association. Buffalo Marriott Ballroom. Featuring a luncheon talk by Sherwin Nuland, MD, author of *How We Die*, entitled "Death, The Doctor and Hope." There will also be a panel discussion on "End of Life/Quality of Life" with Martin Brecher, MD, Jack P. Freer, MD, Ross G. Hewitt, MD and Robert A. Milch, MD. Further details will be given in the next "Bioethics Bulletin."

**History Of Medicine Conference**

The 69th annual meeting of the American Association for the History of Medicine will be held in Buffalo, from May 9-12, at the Hyatt Regency Hotel. For details, contact Professor James Bono, Dept. of History, Park Hall, SUNY-Buffalo, Buffalo, NY 14260; 645-2282, ext. 559; e-mail: hischaos@acsu.buffalo.edu.

**Hospice News**

The community is invited to a tour and presentation on Hospice, Wednesday, March 5 from 7:00 PM - 8:00 PM, Hospice Mitchell Campus, 225 Como Park Boulevard. This information night is free. To register, call the Hospice Marketing Department, 686-1900.

Hospice has also started a "Positive Care Network," which addresses the needs of those affected with HIV and AIDS. For information, contact Catherine Rakowski, Coordinator of Corporate Communications, at 686- 1900.

Also, in mid-March, the Hospice Association will open a new community satellite location in the downtown Buffalo area in the heart of the "medical corridor" adjacent to Buffalo General Hospital, Roswell Park Cancer Institute and the Buffalo Medical Group. It will serve as the operational headquarters of Hospice's new Supportive Care Program.

**Call For Papers**

The Society for Health and Human Values also calls for abstracts for its joint meeting with the Society for Bioethics Consultation, on "Health Care, Ethics, and Humanities: From Our Past to Our Future," to be held October 10-13 at the Sheraton City Center Hotel in Cleveland, Ohio. Deadline for conference workshops is March 15; for papers, and section and interest group programs, the deadline is April 15. Papers and workshops are welcome on topics related to health sciences and the humanities, including but not limited to: ethics, philosophy, religious studies, literature, history, creative arts, law, social science, clinical ethics, education evaluation, and health policy studies related to the humanistic aspects of health care education and practice. For more information, contact the SHHV national office, 703- 556-9222.

**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 March 15th.