

Editor: [Tim Madigan](mailto:timmadigan@aol.com)  
February 1997  
Volume Four, Number Two

Co-Directors: Gerald Logue, MD and [Stephen Wear, PhD](mailto:wear@acsu.buffalo.edu)  
Associate Director: [Jack Freer, MD](mailto:jfreer@buffalo.edu)  
Research Associates: [Charles Jack](mailto:cjack@ubmedh.buffalo.edu) and  
[Adrianne McEvoy](mailto:adrianne@netacc.net)  
Address: Center for Clinical Ethics and Humanities in Health Care  
Veteran's Affairs Medical Center   
3495 Bailey Avenue Buffalo, NY 14215  
Telephone: 862-3412 FAX: 862-4748  
Website: <http://wings.buffalo.edu/faculty/research/bioethics/>  
Send E-mail to: [wear@acsu.buffalo.edu](mailto:wear@acsu.buffalo.edu).

**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](mailto: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: BIOETHLIST@listserv.acsu.buffalo.edu.

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](mailto: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 Committee**

There will be a meeting of the Community Affairs Committee on Wednesday, March 5, at 4:00 PM, at the Erie County Medical Center, Conference Room A, to discuss the ethics committee orientation packet which the Committee has been working on for the past few months.

**Ethics Grand Rounds**

The Ethics Grand Rounds sponsored by Kenmore Mercy will be held on Wednesday, February 12 at 8:00 AM, in the Community Conference Room. The Presenter will be Judith Skretny, Director of the Life Transition Center. Her topic will be: "Delivering Bad News with Compassion and Hope." All are welcome to attend.

**Center Reading Group**

The Center has established a reading and research group, the purpose of which is to discuss in-progress publications and encourage new publications and allied research activities. There will be two meetings held in February, at the Center for Inquiry, 1310 Sweet Home Road, between Maple and Rensch Roads (look for the twin red-and-white gates). The first meeting will be on Wednesday, February 5th. Rodger Jackson, a recent PhD recipient from Michigan State University, will be speaking on the notion of "trust" in health care. On Wednesday, February 19th at 4:00 PM, Bogda Koczwara, MD, a Senior Fellow in Medical Oncology at Roswell Park Cancer Institute, will be presenting a draft of a research proposal she has been developing ethics committees. Allied readings will be sent to regular participants; newcomers are welcome. Contact [Adrianne McEvoy](mailto:adrianne@netacc.net) at the Center (862-3412) for information and materials.

**Upcoming Lectures**

Thursday, February 6. "Survey of Native Americans." Presenter: Myron Glick. Faculty Development Workshop - sponsored by the School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences, University at Buffalo through the Department of Family Medicine. 7:30 AM. Approved for 1.0 hours of AMA/PRA Category 1 credit. For further information, contact Jason Osborne at 898-4745.

Thursday, March 20. "Community Clinical Ethics: Ethics Across the Continuum of Care." Presenter: James Reagan, PhD. The program consists of a presentation of pertinent bioethical issues, consideration of cases and a panel discussion led by local providers. Objectives include: Heightened understanding of pertinent ethical issues; improved ability to respond to the issues in both working with colleagues and caring for patients; enhanced recognition of local interfacility factors that both help and hinder extending continuity of care and establishing community bioethics standards. The program will be held from 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM, at Sabella's of Union Station, Erie, PA. The registration fee is $39.00, which includes lunch. To register, call 1-800-513-5019. The conference is sponsored by the Lake Area Health Education Center (LAHEC) Website: [http://www.erie.net/~lahec/](http://www.erie.net/%7Elahec/), E-mail: [lahec@erie.net](mailto:lahec@erie.net)

Saturday, April 26. Spring Clinical Day 1997 - "Rationing of Health Care." Buffalo Marriott Hotel. The morning program will provide strategies for avoiding the pitfalls and maximizing the advantages of various managed care organizations. Managed care will be discussed from three perspectives: the hospital CEO, the private physician, and the insurer. During the morning, a panel discussion is planned with case histories illustrating some of the tougher issues concerning the rationing of health care dollars. At noon, the keynote speaker will be Barbara A. DeBuono, MD, MPH, the [Commissioner of Health for the State of New York](http://www.health.state.ny.us/). In addition to giving the luncheon address, Dr. DeBuono will be participating in the Rationing of Health Care in America panel discussion. For further information, call 829-2778.

Monday, May 19. Joseph J. Fins, MD will be in Buffalo for a number of activities, including City-Wide Ethics Grand Rounds. Dr. Fins is on the staff of Cornell University Medical College, the Hastings Center, and is the Director of Clinical Ethics at New York Hospital. More details concerning his visit will appear in future issues of the "Bioethics Bulletin."

**SUNY-Buffalo Courses on Bioethics**

Two courses devoted to Biomedical Ethics are being offered this Spring semester at the SUNY-Buffalo South Campus. Center members are welcome to attend individual sessions of interest.

Stephen Wear, PhD, Center co-director, is offering a course for undergraduates, "Social and Ethical Values in Medicine," Tuesdays from 4:00 PM to 6:20 PM, Diefendorf 148. February meetings are as follows:

* February 4: David Nyberg, professor of education, SUNY-Buffalo, will discuss "Truth-Telling in Medicine." Local attorney Janet Kaye and Center co-director Gerald Logue will comment.
* February 11: Susan Regan, J.D., will lecture on "Competence and the Capacity to Make Decisions", with comments by Benjamin Phillips, PhD, RN, and Center staff.
* February 18: Confidentiality.
* February 25: Topic to be announced.

A course on Graduate Research Ethics is being offered by SUNY-Buffalo Professor of Philosophy Richard Hull. He is the course coordinator and principal lecturer. The course was previously offered under the auspices of the SUNY-Buffalo School of Pharmacy, but in view of its general importance it has been adopted by the Graduate School. It offers a broad analysis of ethical issues in science, ranging from scientific misconduct, intellectual property rights, data handling and preservation, and issues around genetic diseases and information. The course meets every Thursday, from 5:15 PM to 6:50 PM, in Room 111 Kimball Tower, South Campus. For further information, contact the Graduate School, at 645-7315.

February meetings are as follows:

* Feb. 6: "Is it Ethical to Create Transgenic Animals?" Bernard Rollin, *The Frankenstein Syndrome*. Richard Hull.
* Feb. 13: "Animal Research: Necessary to Human Welfare? A Debate." Ronald Allison, MD, Oncologist, Buffalo General Hospital; David Triggle, PhD, University Distinguished Professor, Vice Provost Graduate Education, Graduate School Dean.
* Feb. 20: Background to the Use of Human Subjects in Research. Richard Hull.
* Feb. 27: "Forum Discussion: Policies and Practices on Data Ownership and Retention in Business and the University." Dale M. Landi, Vice President for Research, SUNY-Buffalo; Michael Detty, School of Pharmacy (Formerly of Eastman Kodak); David Triggle. University Distinguished Professor, Vice Provost Graduate Education, Graduate School Dean.

**Conference News**

On April 4-5, 1997 D'Youville College will host the Eastern International Region Meeting of the American Academy of Religion. Papers to be presented will include a wide range of issues in the academic study of religion. Because of D'Youville's strong association with degree programs in health care fields, one of the featured themes at this conference will be religion and health. Featured speakers include: Professor Stephen Post of Case Western Reserve University, on the topic "Religion, Ethics, and the Human Genome Project"; and Professor Leslie Fiedler of SUNY-Buffalo, author of the recent book *The Tyranny of the Normal: ESsays on Bioethics, Theology, and Myth*. Other anticipated papers deal with such topics as healing and symbols in medicine and religion; near-death experiences; the Genome Project; ethical and theological reflections on disability and retardation; and religious and medical approaches to the concept of the human body. Registration information and a program outline will be available in late January. To be placed on a mailing list, contact: Dr. Paul R. Johnson, Program Coordinator, AAR-EIR, D'Youville College, 320 Porter Avenue, Buffalo, New York 14201; fax: 881-7760.

**Call for Papers**

The Center for Multicultural Nursing & Health and African-Americans for Humanism will sponsor a conference on "Ethical Dilemmas Arising from Multicultural Differences in Health" in late Fall of 1997. To submit abstracts and/or manuscripts for possible presentation, or for additional information, contact: Essie Alberta Riley Eddins, PhD, RN, SM, PO Box 889, Chautauqua Institution, Chautauqua, New York 14722; phone and fax: 357-2479.

**Roswell Park Course To Be Offered**

Howard J. Allen, PhD, MSW, a doctor in the departments of Gynecologic Oncology and Biochemistry at Roswell Park Cancer Institute, will be offering a seminar in psychosocial genetics. The objective of the course will be to present, discuss and generate awareness of developing medical, social, ethical and legal issues emanating from current advances in genetics and how these issues may impact on individuals, families and society. The course will consider, but not be limited to, issues of predictive testing, confidentiality, privacy, insurability, employability, right-to-know, genetic legislation, standards of care, reproduction planning, protection from research risks, and economics. The course begins on Thursday, January 23, and will meet from 12:00 to 12:50 PM, at the Research Study Center, Room 400, at Roswell Park. There are no prerequisites. If you would like further information, contact Dr. Allen at 845-5725.

**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](mailto: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 February 15th.