

Summary of June 20 Meeting of Consortium

Jim Hornstein, convened. Ken Landis presented colorful history of hosting Centinela Hospital. L. Rothenberg will bring in education update on Bioethics organizations and journals next session. Kendra Gorlitsky will proceed with drafted newsletter. Discussion ensued around resuming relationship of UCLA with SCBCC, if funding is once again (relatively) assured. Vote approved this, particulars to be determined in near future with various recommendations made by members of the interim steering committee.

Next Meetings and Location

September 19, 2007 St. John's Hosp, 1328 22nd St. SM
Wed.5:30 dinner, 6:30 meeting, Louise.West@stohns.org
Subsequent locations to be announced: Torrance Memorial, VA-WLA and UCLA have all offered to host
--November 8, 2007 (Thur.) --March 13, 2008 (Thur.)
--May 21, 2008 (Wed.) --May 21, 2008 (Wed.)
--January 16, 2008 (Wed.)

Agenda of Upcoming Conferences

- September 14, 2007 (Fri) Keck auditorium California Hospital, 12-2PM. *Spectrum of Bioethics Concerns* speakers: Jimmy Hara (Kaiser FP) on Hospital Greening, Jose Quiroga, co-founder of Program for Torture Victims on Licensed Professionals' involvement in torture and Judy Citko, JD on POLST all interested are welcome
- October 5 & 6 2007 (Fri. & Sat) St. Vincent Medical Center Conference Room. *A Two-Day Seminar in Catholic Bioethics*. Multiple speakers and topics. Contact Julie Kelley 215-877-2660
- October 20, 2007 (Sat) St. Francis Medical Center, Patient Tower Aud. *Bridging Life to Death: Palliative Care, Perception of Pain, and Cultural Difference in the Dying Patient*. Speaker: David Kessler. Contact Elizabeth Ata 310-900-8622
- May 18-21, 2008 (Sun.-Wed.) Torrance Marriot Hotel *7th UCLA Conference on Public Health and Disasters* (Pacific Public Health Training Center) Contact Chara Burnstein 310-794-0564

Glossary

(This section will explore definitions useful in Bioethics consults)

- **Capacity** - the degree to which patients have the ability make medical decisions. Capacity may change over time, and thus the patients' ability to able to understand the information relevant to a treatment decision and appreciate the reasonably foreseeable consequences of a decision or lack of a decision (Andrew Latus *Ethics/Humanities/Health Law* Nov. 12, 2002).
- **Competency** - considered a legal finding of decision-making capacity. A finding of incompetence will lead to the appointment of a guardian or conservator who will make decisions on behalf of a patient. (Andrew Latus *Ethics/Humanities/Health Law* Nov. 12, 2002) *Thanks to Leslie Janel for insights*

--Contact Us--

Weigh in Your Thoughts via Email

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A Wider View

(Featuring perspectives from across the country)
Nov. 2005 *Unborn Child Pain Awareness Act of Wisconsin*. State law would require physicians to read script to abortion seeking mothers regarding what legislators deem is perceived pain threshold in fetuses.

<http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/10238840/from/ET/>

To See House Response

- <http://www.congress.gov/cgi-bin/bdquery/z?d109:HR06099:@@L&sum m2=m&>

Hot topics and Controversies

- New Orleans has dearth of Mental Health Professionals and placements; suicide rates in FEMA trailers climbs
<http://www.time.com/time/nation/article/0,8599,1417780,00.html>
- Artificial stem cells from adult mouse cells (avoid controversy?)
<http://www.csmonitor.com/2007/0607/p03s02-usgn.html>
- South Korean scientists and human embryo research
http://www.playfuls.com/news_005798_South_Korea_To_Resume_Human_Egg_Cloning.html

Where do you stand on...?

- *Hospital Greening*: What are the responsibilities of the hospital to the local bio-environment?
- *Assisted suicide* when post-mortem finds no confirming terminal condition.
- *Parthenogenesis/Cloning*
- *Obligatory treatment for severely (not gravely) impaired psychotic patients*

~~~~~ Bioethics in History ~~~~~

Nuremberg Code (1946): Principles developed by the Allied Powers after WW II in response to the attempts of Josef Mengele and other Nazi experimenters to prove racial inferiority through physical abnormalities and dissection. Although containing no legal force at the time, the N Code is the basis for the Code of Federal Regulations Title 45 Volume 46[1], issued by the US Dept of Health and Human Services governing federally funded research.

Steering Committee

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NEW BOOKS in the field

- **Bioethics and the Brain** W. Glannon addresses clinical neuroscience, including imaging, pharmacology, surgical intervention and computer interfaces, and "brain death."
- **Oath Betrayed: Torture, Medical Complicity, and the War on Terror** Steven Miles, Professor of Medicine and Bioethics at U Minnesota analyzes data from federal and other sources documenting participation of medical professionals in torture at Abu Ghraib and the implications for the medical profession at large.
- **Bioethics in Cultural Contexts: Reflections on Methods and Finitude** by Christopher Rehmann-Sutter (Ed.) addresses a range of methodological issues of interdisciplinary bioethics by (re)contextualizing them and revealing the cultural bias and apprehension of medicine on which it depends.
- **Globalization and Health: Challenges for Health Law and Bioethics** Belinda Bennett and George Tomossy analyze, through timely ethical and legal dilemmas in healthcare arising from globalization, issues in health law and bioethics which can not be understood solely within political boundaries that defy traditional notions of individuals and communities.

Ideas for enhanced training & advanced degrees

University of Pennsylvania: Professional Master's degree geared particularly to address challenges faced by today's health care professionals. Open to mid-career and senior health care professionals. For more info:

<http://www.upenn.edu/almanac/v43/n28/bioethic.html>

Volunteer Opportunities

The Balance Sheet needs motivated contributors!
Contact: Kendra 213-201 2780