

CENTER for ETHICS in HEALTH CARE

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Dear Friends,

Stewardship remains an essential core value of the Center for Ethics in Health Care. It is our desire to have the highest possible impact for every dollar we are given and make effective use of the thousands of hours donated in support of Center programs. In short, we strive to be the very best possible investment of your charitable dollars. To help us meet this duty, we foster creative ideas to conserve our resources. From securing donated faculty time for educational events to my personal decision to decline a pay increase; the Center seeks the greatest impact for precious donated time and funding. During these tough financial times, we understand and appreciate greatly the sacrifice made by our generous donors.

Although times remain challenging, we continue to look optimistically to the future. Our solid business plan, supported by private philanthropy, has two areas of need. The first supports program growth for the expanding Ethics Fellowship and the second completes funding for the Cornelia Hayes Stevens Chair endowment, which supports the position of Director long term. Ann Barden (bardena@ohsu.edu) and I welcome the opportunity to talk with you in more detail about support opportunities.

We value tremendously your unwavering support of our Center. With all best wishes and deep thanks,

Susan

Susan W. Tolle, MD
Cornelia Hayes Stevens Chair
Director, Center for Ethics in Health Care



November 2010

Dr. Lynn Jansen, Madeline Brill Nelson Chair in Ethics Education, Builds new Curriculum on Professionalism

Dr. Jansen, in collaboration with Dr. Phyllis Beemsterboer and other members of the Teaching Interprofessional Ethics Team (TIE), is hard at work developing a new curriculum on Professionalism. The new endeavor will teach the common elements of professionalism shared by OHSU's medicine, nursing, dentistry, pharmacy and Physician Assistant programs. Students will explore issues that challenge all health care professionals, such as disclosing medical errors, balancing personal risk and professional duty, caring for family members, and many other topics. Mark Siegler MD, Director of the MacLean Center at the University of Chicago, joined us on November 8th to honor Madeline Nelson and to celebrate the inauguration of the Madeline Brill Nelson Chair in Ethics Education which supports Dr. Jansen in this and other leadership efforts in ethics education.

Ethics Fellows Already Demonstrate Success

With demand for interprofessional education growing we need to cultivate future leaders. That is exactly what our Ethics Fellowship is designed to do. Many of our recent graduates of the two-year program have already been invited to participate in new ethics leadership opportunities. For example, Amanda Baines Ashley is serving as lay volunteer on both OHSU's Ethics Consult Service and Palliative Care Team. Dan Kennedy RPh, FAPhA is designing and teaching a new ethics course in the School of Pharmacy. Melissa Monner, MS has joined the OHSU Patient Relations Office and the Ethics Consultation Service. As confirmed by Dr. Siegler, the Fellowship is a vital investment that is expanding ethics learning across health care professions, engendering research opportunities and is providing the Ethics Center and community with future ethics leaders.

Regional Ethics Conferences: Standing Room Only!

The Center for Ethics staff has been busier than ever launching our fall conference series including the monthly Bioethics Study Group and City Wide Palliative Care Conferences, the twice-yearly Daniel Labby Senior Clinicians' Seminars, two regional day-long Palliative Care Conferences in Redmond and Medford and our Annual Community Luncheon. Participation has been tremendous, with several events setting records. We turned away over 25 disappointed colleagues at the October Palliative Care Conference we co-hosted with Providence Medford Medical Center; evidence that talent and passion about ethics and palliative care in Oregon communities is ebullient. We remain grateful to The Kinsman Foundation for supporting these opportunities to create learning environments uniquely tailored to the needs of individual communities.

Update on POLST

Submissions to the Oregon POLST Registry exceed all expectations. As we rapidly approach the first anniversary December 3rd, we project that 40,000 POLST forms will have been submitted to the nation's first and largest electronic medical order Registry. The Ethics Center continues to coordinate the Oregon POLST Program including statewide education about the program and Registry. These efforts reach every corner of the state, with POLST forms submitted from every Oregon County. Such success could not happen without the ongoing support of our Ethics Center friends and colleagues.

Upcoming Events

December 3, 2010

All-City Palliative Care Conference

Eric Walsh, MD presenting: "*Hope: Its Toxicities, Side Effects, Dosage Range and Black Box Warnings*"

8:00 – 9:00 A.M., Providence Cancer Center Amphitheater
Providence Portland Medical Center, Portland Oregon

Bioethics Study Group Seminar at OHSU

Lynn Jansen, RN, PhD, and Erik Fromme, MD, MCR presenting:
"*The Ethics of Hope and Truth Telling*"

12:00 – 1:00 P.M., OHSU Biomedical Research Building Rm. 381

21st Kinsman Conference

Chair, John Holmes, PhD PeaceHealth Oregon Region
First Baptist Church, Eugene, Oregon

Oregon Statewide Palliative Care Conference

"*Hidden Wounds and the Art of the Possible*"
Oregon Convention Center, Portland, Oregon

April 14 & 15, 2011

June 10, 2011