



Dear Friends,

As my tenure as Interim Director comes to a close, I'm reminded of what makes our Center so incredibly special: it's a vibrant hub of collaboration, community, and hope.

This unique atmosphere is truly forged by our dedicated volunteers. The power of their contributions was brilliantly on display at our recent annual Kinsman Conference, which convened Oregon's bioethics community for two inspiring days of connection, shared purpose, and community.

I am thrilled to welcome Dr. Fabrice Jotterand into our community as the incoming director, starting July 1, 2025. His expertise will undoubtedly catapult our Center's strong foundation into an exciting new chapter.

Thank you to our invaluable volunteers and the entire community for making this journey a rewarding experience. It has been a pleasure to serve the Center as the interim director.

With Appreciation,

Katie H. Stowers, DO
Interim Director
stowersk@ohsu.edu

Welcoming the New Center for Ethics in Health Care Director

The Center for Ethics is excited to welcome the arrival of our new director, Dr. Fabrice Jotterand, Ph.D., M.A. Dr. Jotterand will begin as director on July 1, 2025, bringing with him an extensive background in medical ethics, and an international, multicultural and multidisciplinary perspective on issues pertaining to medicine and health care delivery. His research interests include neuroethics, Artificial Intelligence in health care, use of neurotechnologies, and medical professionalism. Dr. Jotterand most recently served as professor of Bioethics at the Medical College of Wisconsin and holds an appointment as a senior researcher at the Institute for Biomedical Ethics—Faculty of Medicine at the University of Basel, Switzerland. We are excited to celebrate Dr. Jotterand's arrival and the Center's next journey under a new director.

TalkOregon Workshops Receive Recognition of Successes

The TalkOregon program, led by **Dr. Katie Stowers, Ronald W. Naito Director in Serious Illness Education**, has received much recognition this spring for its successful and innovative curriculum. In May, two programs that have adopted the TalkOregon curriculum presented about their experiences and impacts of training at the Society of Teachers of Family Medicine's annual conference. TalkOregon, which teaches an adaptation of VitalTalk's "Powered By" workshops, ranked 3rd in VitalTalk's 2024 Annual Impact Report for teaching the most learners through facilitators' home institutions. In 2024, the Center for Ethics taught 354 learners through the TalkOregon program.

2025 Kinsman Bioethics Conference Fosters Feelings of Community

Nearly 100 health care professionals and ethics enthusiasts gathered in Bend on April 17th-18th to discuss moral distress and wellbeing of healthcare professionals during the 2025 Kinsman Bioethics Conference. The conference received excellent feedback by attendees, with themes of community emerging from the evaluations. One attendee wrote "the feeling of community during this conference made it feel incredibly personal and even more valuable," while another wrote they "enjoyed being surrounded by like-minded health care professionals who share similar concerns and struggles." Keynote speaker, Dr. Cynda Rushton, RN, PhD, MSN, BSN, an international leader in bioethics and nursing from Johns Hopkins Berman Institute of Bioethics and the School of Nursing, gave an inspiring and uplifting talk about self-stewardship and resilience.

For help in making a gift to the Center for Ethics, please contact Liz Arrington at the OHSU Foundation at arringt1@ohsu.edu or 503-552-0716.



Celebrating the Center for Ethics Volunteers

2024-2025

Volunteer Spotlight

Susan has volunteered with the Center for Ethics (CFE) since its inception in 1989 when new medical technologies brought tough questions about life and death. As a social worker, Susan saw the Center as a great place to find practical solutions to real-life ethical dilemmas she and her patients were facing.

Over the years, Susan has contributed to the CFE in numerous ways, including Oregon POLST program, writing guidelines for the ethical implementation of Death with Dignity legislation, Kinsman Bioethics Conference, and Executive Committee member. During the early days of the COVID-19 pandemic, Susan's virtual webinar on resiliency was watched by more than 4,000 people across the world.

Susan loves volunteering with the CFE because of the people and community, statewide outreach, and being a part of practical solutions to tough ethical problems in health care. Her favorite volunteer activity is teaching the **Living with Life-Threatening Illness Course**. "There's an element of safety in the class that allows these new medical students to be human and bring their whole selves to the learning." She especially loves hearing from past students who share how the class helped them to grow into a more humanistic doctor.

"The work of the Center is as important now as ever. We need the values and the thoughtfulness of the people who are engaged with the Center for Ethics. It's really important to keep this work going."



Susan Hedlund, MSW, LCSW; Director of Supportive Care Initiatives for the Biller Family Foundation

Thank You to Our Volunteers

Our heartfelt appreciation goes out to our many dedicated and passionate volunteers who are vital to the success of the Center for Ethics' many essential programs. Together we are making a difference to improve ethical and compassionate health care for Oregonians.

Ruby Aaron, MS

Lisa Abia-Smith, MA

Holly Almond, MSN, FNP

Brittany Arnold, MD

Joan Ash (owner) and Albert (dog)

Amanda Ashley

Katie Balske, LCSW

Ann Barden

Phyllis Beemsterboer, EdD, MS

Kristen Beiers-Jones, RN, MN

Kevin Bibee, LCSW

Melanie Birnbach

Jenny Blechman, MD

Charles Boardman, NP

Mark Bonanno, JD, MPH

Madeline Boyd, MD

Betsy Boyd-Flynn, MA

Amy Brown

Robin Brown

Alexis Burke

Kimberly Carson, MPH, C-IAYT

Marie Chisholm-Burns, PharmD, PhD,
MPH, MBA, FCCP, FASHP, FAST, FACHE

Yubin Cho

David Clarke, MD	Seiko Izumi, PhD	Salvador Ramirez
James Clements, MD	Ann Jackson, PhD	Daniel Reti, MSW
Sheldon Cowger, RN	Nick Johnson, MD	Dana Rhode, DO
Rachel Crawford	Maggie King, MD	Barbie Rice
Tera Cushman, MD	Eli Klovee-Smith, MD	Donna Routh, RN, MN
Melissa Denny, MD	Alan Kovar, MD	Jayden Ruff
Sumathi Devarajan, MD, CMD	Prasanna Krishnasamy, MD, MPH, FACP	Leen Saheb
Will Dickerson, MDiv	Mary Lago, CFTA	Bob Samuels
Dan Doan, MD	Elizabeth Lahti, MD	Dixie Samuels
Abby Dotson, PhD	Drew Lasky, MD	Alexa Sanders
Lori Eckel, LCSW	Noona Leavell, MD	Anna Scott, RN MSN MHA CHPN
Ajit Elhance	Hong Lee, PhD	Lia Sebring, MS
Woody English, MD	Eugenia Liu, JD	Fernando Serna, MDiv
Allison Enriquez, JD	Laura Mavity, MD	Mel Shea
Shelby Enzler	Keren McCord, LCSW	James Sims, DNP, APRN, ANP-BC, CENP
Jaime Fair, MD	Danielle Meyer, MSS	Mardi Spitzer
Brandi Fleck	Aimee Mooney, MS, CCC-SLP	Fred Steele, JD, MPH
Sarah Frazzini	Laurie Morrison, MD	Suzanne Storms, JD
Heidi Funke, MN, MA, RN, HEC-C	Rachel Moses, RN	Robert Stratton, JD, MBA
Andrea Gepner, FNP-BC, ACHPN, RN	Jeff Myers, MPH, MMSc, PA-C, DFAAPA	Donald Sullivan, MD, MPH, MCR
Ladawna Gievers, MD	Annie Nagengast, MD	Brittany Tagliaferro-Lucas
Walt Grebe, JD	Aynun Naher, MBBS, MS	Sara Taub, MD, MBE
Sara Gunden	Rana Najjar, PhD, RN, CPNP	Kelsey Terland, MD
Joan Marie Hady	Elise Newman, MD	Mike Tewfik, MD
Barbara Hansen, MA, RN	Lacey Novak	Greg Thomas, MD
Barbara Harris, MDiv	Annie Onishi (owner) and Rowdy (dog)	Mady Thomas
Susan Hedlund, MSW, LCSW, OSW-C	Eriko Onishi, MD	Amber Thorsen, RN
Linda Heintz	Molly Osborne, MD, PhD	Susan Tolle, MD
Laura Hosford, RN, MA	Brian Park, MD, MPH	Deborah Unger, MD
Petar Hossick	Jim Patterson, MD	Kimberly Walker, LCSW
Janet Huddleston (owner) and Harry (dog)	Sarah Ponzar	Heather Wingate (owner) and Lily (dog)
Kathran Hudson, CMA	Rachael Postman, DNP, FNP-C	Larissa Yoshino, MPH
Antonio Huerta	Megan Pugmire	Meredith Zauflik, MPA
Marette Hulstrom	Emily Purzycki	Julia Zottola