November 2013

Welcome to the inaugural edition of the monthly Bioethics and Humanities Newsletter provided by the Program in Bioethics and Humanities at the University of Iowa Carver College of Medicine.

Program in Bioethics and Humanities: Our Mission
We are committed to helping healthcare professionals explore and understand the increasingly complex ethical questions that have been brought on by advances in medical technology and the health care system. We achieve this through education, research, and service within the Carver College of Medicine, University of Iowa Health Care, University of Iowa, and the wider Iowa community.

More Details About The Program

Program Highlight

**Medicine in the City of Literature**

This article by Dawn Goodlove published in the Summer/Fall 2013 issue of *Medicine Iowa* features information about the many opportunities in the humanities available through the University of Iowa Carver College of Medicine. As stated by the author, “a healthy dose of humanities is available to physicians in training”.

Information covered in this article includes:

- **The Humanities Distinction Track**, co-directed by Lauris Kaldjian, MD, PhD and Jason Lewis, MFA
- **The Writing and Humanities Program**, directed by Jason Lewis, MFA
- **The Examined Life Conference**, directed by Jason Lewis, MFA
- The Examined Life Journal
  - Spring 2013 issues includes “Breaking Bad News,” by David Shaha (’13 MD)
- Medical Student Theatre Group

Read Full Article

Upcoming Events

For a listing of upcoming events related to bioethics and humanities, please click [here](#).

Quotation of the Month

*Virtue makes us aim at the right target, and practical wisdom makes us use the right means.*

- Aristotle
A Closer Look at the Recommended Criteria for Disclosing Genetic Results: Perspectives of Medical Genetic Specialists, Genomic Researchers, and Institutional Review Board Chairs

Christian Simon, PhD, a Primary Faculty member of the Program, is Senior Author and Co-Principal Investigator for the study, which was supported by an ARRA grant from the National Human Genome Institute of the NIH. This article appeared in the August 2013 edition of the Journal of Genetic Counseling.

Next generation sequencing offers benefit of improved health through knowledge, but comes with challenges, such as inevitable incidental findings (IFs). The applicability of recommended criteria for disclosure of individual results when applied to disclosure of IFs is not well known. The purpose of this study was to examine how medical genetic specialists, genomic researchers, and Institutional Review Board (IRB) chairs perceive the importance of recommended criteria when applied to genetic/genomic IFs.

Read Full Article

American Medical Association’s (AMA) Code of Medical Ethics

The AMA’s Code of Medical Ethics articulates the enduring values of medicine as a profession. As a statement of the values to which physicians commit themselves individually and collectively, the Code is a touchstone for medicine as a professional community. It defines medicine’s integrity and the source of the profession’s authority to self-regulate. At the same time, the Code of Medical Ethics is a living document, evolving as changes in medicine and the delivery of health care raise new questions about how the profession's core values apply in physicians' day to day practice. The Code links theory and practice, ethical principles and real world dilemmas in the care of patients.

More Details
Bioethics in the Literature


- Grady C. Reflections on two decades of bioethics: where we have been and where we are going. *Am J Bioeth.* 2013;13(1):8-10.

Bioethics in Video

- *PBS NewsHour: Henrietta Lack’s ‘Immortal’ Impact on Medical Research.* Video aired on August 8, 2013. Approximate run time is 7 minutes.

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