**Letter from the Director, Dr. David Fleming**

My friends,

It has been a very busy time for the Center. We are pleased that Dr. Sarah Breier will continue to be a principle and scholar of the Center, all the way from Tasmania, Australia. Dr. Clay Anderson has moved to North Kansas City Hospital to direct the palliative care program. Travis Dixon went to work with major events planning on MU campus. We welcome Matt Morgan now serving as the Center Administrator; Dr. Arthur Rawlings, Assistant Professor of Surgery; and Dr. Shawna Strickland, Clinical Assistant Professor in the School of Health Professions. Each brings a unique set of talents and interests that will enrich our programs and the services we provide. I also want to offer my gratitude to Dr. Lea Brandt who has stepped in with strong and confident leadership as Associate Director of the Center. Lea’s partnership and strong leadership capacity has become ever more valued as I find myself increasingly absorbed with “other job” duties being Chairman of Internal Medicine Department. I also want to thank Ana Fernandez for taking on greater responsibilities in the Center. I truly appreciate everyone’s efforts, strengths and single-mindedness in moving the agenda of the Center forward; you are indeed a great team!

Our Center remains very active and vibrant thanks to the efforts of many who have contributed to keeping us moving along the right path. Our work has continued in providing clinical ethics consultations whenever needed in our own system and throughout the state, tele-ethics, health literacy research and program development, and fostering responsible research through consultations and educations. Our partnerships and collaborations extend across campus and beyond. We also look forward to another wonderful year with offerings that we hope will enrich your lives: the Annual Hospice Foundation of America video conference and the Perez-Mesa and Pellegrino Lectures both in this Spring; and our Annual Health Ethics Conference this Fall. I look forward to another full and productive year in the MU Center for Health Ethics and want to thank you for your interest and support.

Thank you for your continued support,

David Fleming, MD, MA, FACP

---

**Mark Your Calendars:**

Hospice Foundation of America Video Conference: April 13, 2011
Perez-Mesa Lectureship in Medical Humanities: April 28, 2011
Edmund D. Pellegrino Lectureship October 6, 2011
7th Annual Health Ethics Conference October 7-8, 2011
ITEMS IN THE NEWS

Tele-Health Network Presentations:
March 24, 2011 12:00pm “Religion and Death” Win Phillips, PhD
April 21, 2011 12:00pm “Advance Care Planning” Don Reynolds, JD
May 19, 2011 12:00pm “Withdrawing and Withholding Care” William Bondeson, PhD

Please contact: Lindsay B. Beckmann Phone: 573.882.3458 E-mail: beckmannli@health.missouri.edu

DR. SHAWNA STRICKLAND
Faculty spotlight

Dr. Shawna Strickland is the Program Director for the Respiratory Therapy at the School of Health Profession. She has been at the University of Missouri Columbia since 2005.

Dr. Strickland became interested in respiratory therapy since her High School career day. Her Aunt Betty worked at Southern Illinois University and invited Shawna to visit with the various academic advisors during her career day. Dr. Strickland has enjoyed being a respiratory therapist, in the earlier part of her career she worked mainly with children and presently she works with adults. Shawna states that Respiratory Therapy has been her best decision ever!

Dr. Strickland developed the undergraduate Ethics curriculum for the Respiratory Therapy program at MU. This has been a very fulfilling experience for her. Since she was familiar with End of Life issues from her previous work, she had knowledge but as she developed the lessons; she became more involved with the Center for Health Ethics. Dr. David Fleming was very instrumental in helping her with topics and invited Dr. Strickland to attend the Clinical Ethics Committee (CEC) meetings. Being the very energetic and vibrant person that she is, it is no surprise that Shawna soon became involved with planning topics for the CEC meetings as well as participating in the planning committee for the Annual Health Ethics Conference. Last year, Dr. Strickland was one of the panelists for the 6th Annual Health Ethics Conference. It was just a matter of time for Dr. Strickland to join the Center for Health Ethics.

Dr. Strickland loves to teach! She enjoys teaching very much, especially the rapport that she develops with her student. She sees her teaching experience as an opportunity from which she is also learning. As she states: “Every day that goes by my students teach me something!”

Shawna and her husband David have 3 cats: Grace, Jack and Phoebe. Shawna also enjoys reading science fiction, mysteries and the classics. Shawna and David love traveling and cycling. This summer Shawna will compete in her first Mini Triathlon. Please welcome Dr. Shawna Strickland to our Center for Health Ethics.

Shawna Strickland, Ph.D.

DR. ARTHUR RAWLINGS
Faculty spotlight

Dr. Arthur Rawlings is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Surgery at the University of Missouri, Columbia. He was a fellow in Minimally Invasive Surgery at Washington University School of Medicine in St. Louis, Missouri before coming to the University of Missouri.

Dr. Rawlings has an extensive and varied educational background. In addition to his M.D. degree, he has a Bachelor’s degree in Mechanical Engineering and a Master of Divinity. He was a Pulpit Minister for 11 years before going to medical school. During his medical school studies, he was asked to teach the second year students’ Ethics class, for which he most graciously consented to take on because of his interest in both teaching and Philosophy. His students enjoyed and appreciated their instructor’s class so much that for two consecutive years Dr. Rawlings received the “Best Instructor in the M2 Ethics Course” at the University Of Illinois College Of Medicine in Peoria, Illinois.

Currently, as an Assistant Professor in the Department of Surgery at the University of Missouri Columbia, Dr. Rawlings has been asked to develop the Surgical Palliative Care Residency curriculum. He presented a Ground Round seminar in January of this year entitled “Informed Consent: It’s Not Just a Piece of Paper.” He enjoys very much developing these educational programs as he states “I can combine my love of Philosophy and Ethics, my medical training and my love for teaching.” It is his interaction with students that motivates him. This is certainly why it was just a matter of time for Dr. Rawlings to join the Center for Health Ethics.

Dr. Rawlings and his wife Paula love the outdoors and their cat, Peeves. They enjoy bicycling on the MKT Trail. Arthur also enjoys fishing and reading. Please welcome Dr. Arthur Rawlings to our Center for Health Ethics.
The health ethics certificate offered by the Center for Health Ethics in conjunction with the Department of Health Management and Informatics is now open for enrollment.

Courses will cover a variety of ethics related topics, such as health ethics theory, organizational ethics and informatics ethics. The 12 credit hour certificate is geared towards the working professional with an online class format. The certificate program will help the learner develop an understanding of the ethical issues related to health and healthcare and will foster skills in analyzing and resolving ethical problems and conflicts in the healthcare environment.

Health Ethics Certificate Available at MU

For more information, contact:

Matthew Kearney
Student Recruitment Coordinator

Phone: 573.884.0698
kearneym@health.missouri.edu
PRESENTATIONS AND PUBLICATIONS


“Techniques for Enhancing Health Literacy in Clinical Practice” (Workshop) Annual Scientific Conference, Missouri Chapter of the American College of Physicians, Lake of the Ozarks, Missouri; September 24, 2010


"Ethics: The Good, The Bad and The Ugly," American Association for Respiratory Care 56th International Respiratory Congress, Las Vegas, NV: 2010


Sanford, Dominic and David A. Fleming. We Meant no Harm, Yet We Made a Mistake; Why Not Apologize? A Student’s View. Health Ethics Committee Forum. 2010;22(2):159-169.


MU Joins Medical Mission Trip 2011 to Guatemala

Clinic staff: Timoteo, Thea. Tracy. MU medical team: Drs. Rochelle Parker, Karen Edison, David Fleming, and Carolyn Edison.

Several University of Missouri School of Medicine faculty and staff were part of a 14 person medical mission group that recently visited Guatemala to serve the needs of its indigenous people in remote areas. The group, sponsored by the Missouri United Methodist Church in Columbia, lived and worked in the Highlands of Guatemala from January 22-31, 2011 caring for the indigenous Mayans, who make up most of the population in that region. This trip was incorporated into a more extensive volunteering initiative offered by the Organization for Development of the Indigenous Maya (ODIM) (http://odimaguaatemala.org/), which is a small group of volunteers and paid local staff that live and work at the grassroots level in the villages of San Juan La Laguna, San Pablo La Laguna, and surrounding rural areas on the shores of Lake Atitlan.

The group was divided into two teams: construction and medical. The construction team built a house for a mother with two small children. MU members from the medical team were: Dr. David Fleming, Dr. Karen Edison, Dr. Carolyn Edison, and Dr. Rochelle Parker. The medical team offered services that focused on health care and education. We conducted temporary clinics in several rural areas around Lake Atitlan and treated a wide variety of conditions, having minimal in the way of testing facility and with just a few suitcases full of medication that we transported. When asked about the experience Dr. Fleming said, “Caring for the acute and chronic needs of these people, who historically have had very little or no access to health care of any kind for centuries, has had a huge impact on my life, both personally as well as professionally. It was a powerful and unforgettable experience.”

MU and Missouri United Methodist Church are planning more medical mission trips like this one. For more information please call MUMC at 579-443-3111.
Edmund D. Pellegrino, MD Lecture in Medicine and Ethics

Reflections of the Master Bioethicist

6th Annual Health Ethics Conference 2010

Redefining Death in the 21st Century

The 6th Annual Health Ethics Conference was a huge success! We had the largest number of participants in the six years history of the conference with Dr. Edmund D. Pellegrino as our honored guest. The conference topic of Redefining Death in the 21st Century united participants such as: Amy H. Haddad, PhD, Rebecca Dresser, JD, Paul Litton, MD, PhD; William B. Bondeson, PhD; David Fleming, MD, MA, FACP; Thomas Bender, MD; Paul Tatum, MD, MSPH. Our Panelists consisted of: Lori Popejoy, PhD; Monica Smith, RN, and Shawna Strickland, PhD with Sarah Breier, PhD, RN, as the moderator. We had a wide variety of topics from “Ethics of Suicide; Death, Dying and Neonatology; Death in the ICU; Ethics and the Death Penalty; Insights from Tarot about Futility Decision: The Hanged Man; History of Death and the Popular Media;” just to name a few. Next year’s conference will be on: “The Ethics of Communication in Health Care.”

Contact: Ana Fernandez
Phone: 573-882-9022
Fax: 573-884-2664
E-mail: fernandezan@missouri.edu

Clinical Ethics Committee:
Every 2nd Thursday of every month at 5-7:30pm CS&E 706.

Perez-Mesa Lectureship in Medical Humanities:
April 28, 2011 7:00pm MU Reynolds Alumni Center

Hospice Foundation of America Video Conference:
April 13, 2011 1–4:30pm Memorial Union N206 panel discussion afterwards.
Other site viewing available with a Moderator on:
School of Health Professions: April 20, 2011; 1 - 4pm 513 Lewis Hall
School of Medicine: April 22, 2011; 2:30 - 5:30pm Acuff Auditorium
School of Nursing: April 27, 2011; 1 - 4pm S227

Edmund D. Pellegrino Lectureship October 6, 2011
7th Annual Health Ethics Conference October 7-8, 2011