Letter from the Director, Dr. David Fleming

Greetings and Happy Holidays everyone!

Each academic year we get off to a rousing start with the MU Health Ethics Conference (HEC), and this year was no exception. We held our Seventh Annual HEC, themed “Ethics of Effective Communication in Healthcare,” in a new venue in Columbia’s Hampton Inn on October 6-8. Topics ranged from End-of-Life decision making, Spirituality, and the use of Electronic Medical Records. The conference was a success thanks to a series of dynamic speakers and their unifying themes.

Once more we were honored with Dr. Bud Hammes from Wisconsin, as well as Dr. Warren Lockette from the Department of Defense in Washington D.C., and Dr. Dan Bustillos from Missouri. In addition, we were thrilled to have two of our very own former Ethics Consultants return as visiting speakers: Dr. Sarah Breier from Australia and Dr. Clay Anderson from Kansas. Many more thanks go to the planning committee, the faculty and staff of the CHE, and to Natalie Carter in the School of Medicine Office of CME for their commitment and hard work in making this conference a success. I also want to give particular recognition and to express my sincere appreciation to Dr. Win Phillips, who took the lead in planning and coordinating this meeting—well done, Win, Thank You for your leadership!

And even more good news from the Center! Specifically, our online Graduate Certificate in Health Ethics has officially launched two available courses for this term: Health Ethics Theory (HMI 7564-Dr. Philips) and Health Care Ethics (HMI 8565-Dr. Brandt). This certificate is entirely an online program that requires the completion of four graduate courses. The other two courses that will be offered in the spring semester are Health Organization Ethics by Dr. Rathert and Health Informatics by Dr. Philips. This is a wonderful opportunity for graduate students who seek to develop a deeper understanding of ethics for use in their healthcare settings or in their further academic endeavors.

Recently we had the Center’s day-long annual strategic planning retreat. This was an invigorating experience that allowed us to reflect on all that has occurred, and all that is planned. The Center is thriving due to the efforts of our entire team. The Center’s faculty continues to be active in many aspects of education, training, and research. Our ethics consultation services remain vigorously active within our own system and statewide. We thrive because of our dedicated faculty, strong leadership, and wonderful support, with Lea Brandt, Matt Morgan, and Ana-Maria Fernandez leading the way. I am truly indebted to this amazing team and appreciate their multiple talents that carry us forward. We certainly have much for which to be grateful!

Thank You for your continued support.

David Fleming, MD, MA, FACP
This year’s Edmund D. Pelligrino M.D. Lecture speaker was Warren Lockette, M.D., who presented “Diversifying the Health Care Workforce.”

“Dr. Lockette’s focus on diversifying the workforce demonstrates the need for awareness for cultural sensitivity. Despite challenges facing the medical community, raising awareness of the need for diversity in healthcare will help reach more patients in the community,” Dr. Shawna Strickland said.

When a workplace is diverse, it becomes sensitive to the needs of its minority students. Similarly, it can reflect the representation of minorities within the community—individuals whom these medical students will encounter in the hospitals and clinics. Having a diverse student body allows more individuals the opportunity to endorse equitable access to care and it becomes more likely that, following graduation, these students will practice among the undeserved population.

“This is the right time, as a student, to start developing skills that will help me to ease tensions within the workplace, which will make it patient-centered and add value to the organization,” Health Services Management graduate student Adam Bouras said.

Diversity, as Dr. Lockette emphasized, is something he is both passionate about and personally strives to achieve in his interactions with others. As a firm believer in affirmative action, which he admits made his entrance as an undergraduate to the University of Michigan possible; Dr. Lockette continues to ensure that every student understands the value of diversity within the student body and workplace to meet the needs of everyone, regardless of their background. That is why he created the undergraduate Minority Health International Research Training Fellowship program in which students from University of California, San Diego traveled to Peru, Egypt, Taiwan and the Czech Republic to conduct research in a foreign setting and to learn how other countries deal with the healthcare issues of their minorities.

Dr. Lockette was influenced by a good friend in the US Navy Seals program to do volunteer work in all of the areas of the world he visited but he in return has also asked his friends from the US Navy Seals to volunteer and be mentors to minorities students in Detroit, Michigan inner city schools where each day students have to pass through metal detectors just to enter their school.

“Dr. Lockette highlighted his work on the USNS Comfort Medical Treatment Facility and how he involved students from different backgrounds to help them become more aware of global needs,” Dr. Shawna Strickland said.

If you are wondering why Dr. Lockette is such an influential speaker, I will let you know about his career history. Dr. Lockette is currently the Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Clinical and Program Policy and the Chief Medical Officer of the TRICARE Management Activity. He is responsible for Department of Defense programs in clinical informatics, military public health, women’s health issues, quality management, health promotion and disease prevention, biomedical ethics, mental health policy, patient advocacy, graduate medical education, and patient safety.

Dr. Lockette received both his undergraduate and doctor of medicine degrees from the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor. He did his residency training in Internal Medicine at the University of California. After his residency training, Dr. Lockette was recruited to the faculty of the Wayne State University School of Medicine in Detroit, Michigan where he attained tenured Professor of Endocrinology and Medicine. Concurrently, Dr. Lockette held appointment as Adjunct Associate Professor of Physiology at the University of Michigan. Dr. Lockette returned to California where he became Professor of Medicine and Faculty Fellow of the International House at the University of California, San Diego.

Dr. Lockette has an extensive experience in operational medicine. He served as a Senior Advisor to the Commander of the Naval Special Warfare Command and the U.S. Special Operations Command. At the Naval Medical Center in San Diego, Dr. Lockette was instrumental in the expansion of the largest military clinical research program in graduate medical education. He has served as Special Assistant to the Commander, U.S. Navy Fourth Fleet, where he established partnerships between military and civilian organizations of health care and public health practitioners to provide collaborative humanitarian assistance and disaster relief training in Latin America.
The 7th Annual Health Ethics Conference
The Ethics of Effective Communication in Health Care.

The 7th Annual Health Ethics Conference was a great success! We had a substantial number of participants in the seven years history of the conference with Bud Hammes, Ph.D., and Warren Lockette, MD, as our honored guest. The conference theme “The Ethics of Effective Communication in Health Care” examined the ethical issues in communication that arise in the clinical and managerial contexts in healthcare. Moral questions occur in communication between clinicians and patients, among clinicians, and between managers and employees.

This year’s presenters included: Dan Bustillos, Ph.D., JD; Julie Russell, RN, MA, Nurse Dramatist; Laura Hirschinger, RN, MSN; Arthur L. Rawlings, MD, M.Div.; Nancy Cheak-Zamora, Ph.D.; Dasi H. Schlup, MSW, LCSW; Diane L. Smith, Ph.D.; and Stan Hudson, MA just to name a few. Our Panelists consisted of: Ranadhir Mitra, MD; Virginia L. Allen, M.Th; and Rashed Nizam, Ph.D. with David A. Fleming, MD, as the panelist’s moderator.


Participants obtained a better understanding of the challenges of communicating both ethically and effectively. They were able to understand the important factors that impact communication in healthcare settings. Ultimately, they were able to achieve insights into how to improve communication in the healthcare workplace.
Ethics Resources Survey at UMHC

A survey of the Ethics resources available to University of Missouri Hospitals and Clinics (UMHC) staff will be conducted in early 2012. A group of second-year graduate students in the Master’s of Health Administration degree program in the department of Health Management and Informatics (HMI) will be leading the survey as part of their capstone project.

The students are: Mathew Koelling, Erin Tipton and Brian Washington. The faculties that will be advising the graduate students are from the Center for Health Ethics (CHE) and HMI. They are: Cheryl Rathert, Ph.D., Win Phillips, Ph.D., and Lea Brandt, OTD, MA, OTR/L and the Associate Director for the Center for Health Ethics.

The survey will examine the perceptions about UMHC’s Ethics Consult Service. The Ethics Consult Service (ECS) has been available for 10 years to assist with resolving dilemmas and conflicts that have ethical implications for patients, family or members of the professional care team. Respondents will be answering questions concerning their perceptions of the services, access and barriers to the service, and education about the service.

Analysis of the survey will examine the perceptions of the ECS and identify any gaps in the Ethics resources that could be provided to clinical care staff by the Center for Health Ethics. The reports will be completed by mid-April, 2012 with the intention of helping the Center for Health Ethics continue to improve the quality of services offered to UMHS stakeholders.

Responsible Conduct of Research Seminar Series

On behalf of the MU School of Medicine’s Office of Research, the Center for Health Ethics, is now offering a six-hour seminar in Responsible Research. The seminar will be repeated each quarter as a monthly series of two-hour sessions. CHE faculty Don Reynolds, JD and Arthur Rawlings, MD, M.Div. are core faculty for the seminars.

The term Responsible Research refers to the sensitive practice of scientific investigation in conformity with professional norms and ethical principles. These norms and principles are frequently expressed as a set of topics: conflicts of interest; human-research; vertebrate animal-research; safe laboratory practices; mentor/mentee responsibilities and relationships; collaborative research; peer review; data acquisition, management, sharing and ownership; research misconduct; responsible authorship and publication; scientists as responsible members; and contemporary ethical issues in biomedical research. The seminar relies on participants, invited conversation partners and interactive cases to illuminate the ethics implications of the RCR topics out emerge in the context of cases.

Visit the School of Medicine website http://medicine.missouri.edu for session locations, dates and times. CE certificates are provided by the School of Medicine Office of Compliance and Quality.

The seminars are 100% underwritten by the School of Medicine’s Office of Research so that they can be offered to participants at no cost. To register contact Debbie Taylor (taylor@health.missouri.edu).

The office of Compliance and Quality in cooperation with the MU Sinclair School of Nursing Presents: The Responsible Conduct of Research Seminar Series Session I: Developing Research Projects.

Don Reynolds, JD, and Arthur Rawlings, MD

Monday, January 9, 2012 3:00pm—5:00pm in School of Medicine N521

To register contact Debbie Taylor at 884-0042 or Email: taylor@health.missouri.edu

End– of Life Ethics program on April 23, 2012 from 9:30 am—11:30am in MU School of Medicine Acuff Auditorium. Panel discussion following video program presentation.
**Register for Spring Semester Health Ethics Certificate Courses**

- **Health Organizational Ethics** by Dr. Rathert
- **Health Informatics Ethics** by Dr. Phillips.

**HEALTH ETHICS CERTIFICATE AVAILABLE AT MU**

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 skill in analyzing and resolving ethical problems and conflicts in the healthcare environment.

For more information contact: Matthew Kearney
Student Recruitment Coordinator
Telephone: (573) 884-0698 or
Email: kearneym@health.missouri.edu

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event Description</th>
<th>Date/Time</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Clinical Ethics Committee:</strong> Every 2nd Thursday of every month at 5-7:30pm CS&amp;E 706.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Responsible Conduct of Research Seminar</strong> January 9, 2012 3-5pm SOM N521</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>PEREZ-MESA LECTURESHP IN MEDICAL HUMANITIES:</strong> April 10, 2012 7:00pm MU Memorial Union Stotler Lounge Irwin Braverman, MD “Art and Art of Medicine”</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>HOSPICE FOUNDATION OF AMERICA VIDEO CONFERENCE:</strong> April 23, 2012 9:00am-11:30am MU SOM Acuff Auditorium.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Edmund D. Pellegrino Lectureship October 18, 2012 8th Annual Health Ethics Conference October 19-20, 2012</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>