Monday, May 5, 2014

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Thank You for an Exciting and Successful 2014 Annual Conference!

On Friday, May 2 and Saturday, May 3, the Petrie-Flom Center hosted its 2014 annual conference, "Behavioral Economics, Law, and Health Policy." Thirty speakers and more than 200 audience members participated in two days of wide-ranging talks, panel sessions, and vigorous discussion on the promise and the perils presented by the application of behavioral economics – particularly "nudges" – to health law policy. Highlights included:

Keynote: Cass Sunstein, Robert Walmsley University Professor, Harvard Law School

Plenary 1: Alan M. Garber, Provost, Harvard University; Mallinckrodt Professor of Health Care Policy, Harvard Medical School; Professor of Economics, Faculty of Arts and Sciences; Professor of Public Policy, Harvard Kennedy School of Government; and Professor, Department of Health Policy and Management, Harvard School of Public Health

Plenary 2: Russell Korobkin, Richard C. Maxwell Professor of Law, UCLA School of Law
Plenary 3: Michael Hallsworth, Principal Advisor, The Behavioural Insights Team (UK)

The full conference agenda is available on our [website](#).

If you couldn't join us, you can still [join the conversation on our blog, Bill of Health, where Petrie-Flom affiliates liveblogged all conference sessions](#). We'll also be posting video of all conference sessions to our [website](#) in the coming weeks. Stay tuned!

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Petrie-Flom Website Hosting New "Opportunities" Page

The Petrie-Flom Center has launched a new "Opportunities" page as part of the "Resources" section of the website. Much like the "Opportunities" section of our biweekly newsletters, this new resource lists opportunities in health law and bioethics including jobs, fellowships, seminars, conference calls for abstracts, journal calls for submissions -- and more! Unlike the newsletter, however, the website will be updated in real time, full posts remain active on the website until their deadline passes, and past posts will still be visible in our "Opportunities Archive."

If you have opportunities that you would like to share with the Petrie-Flom community via our website and/or this bi-weekly newsletter, please contact us at petrie-flom@law.harvard.edu.

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Scholarship & Commentary from Petrie-Flom Affiliates

Michelle N. Meyer Appointed to Board of Directors of PersonalGenomes.org

Academic Fellow alumna [Michelle Meyer](#), J.D., Ph.D., currently Assistant Professor and Director of Bioethics Policy in the Union Graduate College-Icahn School of Medicine at Mt. Sinai Bioethics Program, has been named to the Board of Directors of [PersonalGenomes.org](#) (PG.org), a 501(c)(3) charitable organization dedicated to creating and publicly sharing highly (re)identifiable genomic, health, and trait data critical to scientific progress, and to develop novel legal, ethical & techniical ways of doing so. PG.org was created in 2008 to support the Personal Genome Project (PGP), which was begun in 2005 by [Harvard geneticist George Church, a leader in the Human Genome Project during the 1980s and 1990s](#). Today, the PGP has grown to a global network of sites including not only PGP-Harvard, but also PGP-UK, PGP-Canada, and several other sites in development throughout the world. PG.org is also responsible for the annual GET (Genomes, Environments, and Traits) Labs and the GET Conference, which was [featured last week in the New York Times](#).

Most recently, PG.org was awarded one million dollars in grants from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and the Knight Foundation to design and launch a new project, [Open Humans Network](#), an online system that helps match people willing to share their health data with researchers who would benefit from access to more information, all with a focus on exploring new standards for open health data. Open Humans will initially work...
Streamlining Review by Accepting Equivalence

By Holly Fernandez Lynch (Executive Director) and I. Glenn Cohen (Faculty Director)
The American Journal of Bioethics vol. 14, issue 5, 2014

In their target article, Barchi, Singleton, and Merz (2014) identify several challenges to the review of international research, including regulatory frameworks and review criteria that may overlap or compete across research sites. They articulate a variety of mechanisms by which institutional review boards (IRBs) can collaborate internationally to streamline review and avoid unnecessary burden while continuing to protect subjects, but one important mechanism for achieving these goals goes beyond the IRB’s purview: the regulatory authority offered under 45 CFR 46.101h to accept equivalent protections of human subjects enrolled in research abroad. [...] Read the full article.

What (If Anything) Is Wrong with Human Enhancement? What (If Anything) Is Right with It?

By I. Glenn Cohen
Tulsa Law Review vol. 49, 2014


This article is part of a symposium honoring one of my wonderful mentors: Einer Elhauge. It focuses on human enhancement. With advances in reproductive technologies, genetic screening, and concomitant calls for regulation of these things in America the time for discussing these issues has never been better.

Part I offers a reconstructive taxonomy as to different kinds of enhancements, including incorporating one distinction (as to absolute and positional goods and positive and negative externalities) that has been the focus of Elhauge’s own thinking. That said, one leitmotif of this Part is that “enhancement” as a category may not be particularly useful, especially if we accept there are not morally relevant differences in the biological vs. non-biological and treatment vs. enhancement distinctions, such that something like tutoring falls into the category of “enhancement."

Part II offers a taxonomy of legal/regulatory interventions.

Part III attempts to sketch and interrogate the major arguments offered against human enhancement, including by mapping these arguments onto the taxonomies developed in Parts I and II and showing to which kinds of enhancements they apply and what kinds of legal/regulatory interventions can accommodate some of the concerns they raise.

Finally, Part IV focuses on a question that has received surprisingly scant attention: why enhancement is sought. I will argue that one key reason offered for enhancement, to improve the life of the enhanced in the case of enhancement through reproduction, cannot be sustained for reasons that mirror points I have made elsewhere on the opposite issue, the justification for preventing parents from reproducing in ways that “harm” their offspring.

Download the paper.

Gallantly fighting windmills? Complexity of a 21st century challenge: Review of The
Alzheimer Conundrum, Margaret Lock, Princeton University Press (2013)
By Robin Pierce (Senior Law and Ethics Associate)
The Lancet: Neurology, vol. 13, issue 5

Conundrum presents an intriguing picture of the state of Alzheimer's research and its abundant uncertainties. Through a series of interviews, observations, and informal conversations, medical anthropologist, Margaret Lock traverses the worlds of the laboratory, clinic, and lay public to produce a timely and insightful examination of the research effort aimed at one of the greatest challenges of the 21st century. But even this characterisation presents a conundrum, as Lock asserts that the entanglement of Alzheimer's disease and ageing has not been adequately addressed and questions whether disentanglement is even possible. Her message is partly that although the existence of an underlying neuropathological change is not in dispute, little can be said with certainty about what this finding means or what we should do about it. [...]  

Read the review.

More Affiliate News:

Accountability in the ACO Structure: Health care reforms will change medical professional liability risks.
By Katie Siegel, quoting I. Glenn Cohen
Risk & Insurance, April 2014

[...] As physician employers, ACOs "will need professional liability coverage for the errors of its professional care providers," said Derek Jones, a principal and consulting actuary at Milliman.

In fact, said I. Glenn Cohen, co-director of Harvard Law School's Petrie-Flom Center for Health Law Policy, Biotechnology and Bioethics, ACOs will see "an increase of malpractice liability at the institutional level." [...]  

Read the full article.

ANALYSIS: VA Department Responsible for Veteran Deaths
Lyudmila Chernova, quoting I. Glenn Cohen
RIA Novosti, April 25, 2014

[...] Glenn Cohen, a health policy and bioethics expert at Harvard Law School, stressed the Veterans Administration has had a serious history of delays in many areas and one of the key promises of the new secretary has been to work through the backlog.

"This story with the Phoenix VA emphasizes that the true magnitude of the problem may be hidden from officials in Washington," Cohen told RIA Novosti Thursday. "Given the large scope of the US administrative state, leading officials in Washington can never fully monitor or control what is going on in local offices." [...]  

Read the full article.

Obamacare class-action suit opens a new legal front: Nevada plaintiffs: They paid, but weren't covered
By Tom Howell Jr., quoting I. Glenn Cohen
Washington Times, April 23, 2014
[...] Analysts said this appears to be the first case of its kind since Obamacare launched in earnest last fall, and that its form - a class action - could be useful if it meets certain legal criteria.

"In many cases where individuals would not sue on their own behalf individually - because the claim is not valuable enough to justify the lawyer bills - a group of plaintiffs can sue in an aggregated form and thus make it cost-effective to join," said I. Glenn Cohen, a health policy expert at Harvard Law School.

He said the benefits of such an action only apply if the class is certified in court - a process that will run ashore if attorneys cannot convince the court that each member of the class faces a similar enough set of issues and that a class action is the best way to redress their grievances. [...] 

Read the full article.

Mark Udall ad says Cory Gardner 'championed' Colorado fight to ban birth control

Citing I. Glenn Cohen

PoliticFact.com, April 21, 2014

As we’ve noted in past articles about the debate over personhood, some legal scholars and the medical community have cautioned that it could potentially impact access to birth control. In a 2011 op-ed to the New York Times, Glenn Cohen, co-director of the Center for Health Law Policy, Biotechnology and Bioethics at Harvard University, and Jonathan Will, law professor at Mississippi College, said what is considered "fertilization" is not even clear.

Fertilization could mean at least four different things: "penetration of the egg by a sperm," successful combination of the genetic information from sperm and egg, activation of the genetic information, and "implantation of the embryo in the uterus," Cohen and Will wrote.

Sperm penetration occurs almost immediately, but implantation can take up to two weeks. "Thus, on some reasonable readings of the amendment, certain forms of birth control ... would seem impermissible, while on other equally reasonable readings they are not."

Therefore, it is difficult to know how courts would react, especially considering that past rulings have affirmed the right of access to birth control. A personhood law could present proponents an opportunity to challenge those rulings.

Read the full article.

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Bill of Health

Examining the intersection of law and health care, biotech & bioethics
A blog by the Petrie-Flom Center and friends

http://blogs.law.harvard.edu/billofhealth/
Come join the conversation at Bill of Health! During the last two weeks, our bloggers have been discussing:

**Liveblogging of the 2014 Annual Conference, "Behavioral Economics, Law, and Health Policy":**

- Keynote: Cass Sunstein, Harvard Law School: "Choosing Not to Choose" (here)
- Plenary 1: Alan M. Garber, Provost, Harvard University: Can Behavioral Economics Save Health Care Reform?" (here)
- Plenary 2: Russell Korobkin, UCLA, "The Choice Architecture Problem and Health Care Decisions" (here)
- Plenary 3: Michael Hallsworth, The Behavioural Insights Unit, "Applying Behavioural Insights in Theory and in Practice" (here)
- Panel 1: The Ethics of Nudges in Health Care (here)
- Panel 2: Potential Problems and Limits of Nudges in Health Care (here)
- Panel 3: Behavioral Economics and Health Care Costs (here)
- Panel 4: Crowding Out (here)
- Panel 5: Behavioral Economics and the Doctor-Patient Relationship (here)
- Panel 6: Deciding for Patients and Letting Patients Decide for Themselves (here)
- Panel 7: Defaults in Health Care (here)

**Health insurance, health care reform/finance:**

- "The Alexis Shapiro Case: Divergent Perspectives on Coverage Decisionmaking" (here)

**Reproductive Health/Rights:**

- "Is Nonmedical Sex Selection Always Sexist?" (here)

**Pharmaceuticals/Medical Devices:**

- "On Patents, Patients, and the Public Interest" (here)
- "A More Transparent System for Clinical Trials Data in Europe..." (here)

**Food safety and regulation:**

- FDA progress on phasing out antibiotics in animal farming (here)

**Personhood/animals:**

- "...On Steven Wise, the Nonhuman Rights Project, and Misguided Personhood Debates" (here)

**Bioethics:**

- "The Neuroethics of Unintentional Memory Modification" (here)

**General health law/policy:**

- "Mental Health in Law School" (here)
- "Medical Malpractice or General Negligence? A Redux" (here)
- "Mental Therapist's Duty to Prevent Patient's Crimes" (here)
- "What Should Customers Do about Dirty Practices of Big Companies?" (here)
- "Rational Actors and Happy Actors" (here)
- "Health Class and Personal Preferences" (here)
- "How Should We Label These 'Cognitive Errors' That Are Particularly Common among MDs?" (here)

If you'd like to join us as a guest blogger or if you have something you'd like us to post, please contact Cristine Hutchison-Jones, Petrie-Flom Center Administrative Director, at chutchisonjones@law.harvard.edu.

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Health Law Policy and Bioethics Workshops

The 2013-2014 Health Law Policy and Bioethics Workshops have concluded. Workshops will resume in fall 2014, and we will post the schedule of presenters here and on our website when it becomes available in late summer.

To download papers from this year's workshops, visit the individual workshop pages in our online Events Archive.

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Petrie-Flom Center Events

Biostatistics and FDA Regulation: The Convergence of Science and Law
Tuesday, May 20, 2014, 8:00am - 5:00pm
Wasserstein Hall Milstein West, Harvard Law School, 1585 Massachusetts Ave.

Symposium Presented by the Drug Information Association (DIA), the Food and Drug Institute (FDLI), and the Petrie-Flom Center for Health Law Policy, Biotechnology, and Bioethics at Harvard Law School, in collaboration with the Harvard School of Public Health Department of Biostatistics and Harvard Catalyst | The Harvard Clinical and Translational Science Center.

Biostatistics is the application of statistics - the study of the collection, organization, analysis, interpretation and presentation of data - to a wide range of topics in life sciences. Biostatistics informs the Food and Drug Administration's regulatory decision-making processes for premarket review of investigational drugs and devices and post-market surveillance of medical products, including decisions to require safety labeling changes and withdraw approval. Recent developments, such as Congress's creation of a new federal infrastructure for the dissemination of comparative effectiveness information, point to the need for a fresh look at the way in which biostatistical principles inform federal health care policy, particularly at the FDA. This one-day symposium will give attendees the foundational knowledge they need to understand how biostatistics applies in FDA regulation, and will also address closely related issues residing at the intersection of statistical analysis and life sciences litigation.

The full agenda is available online.

Registration is required to attend this event. For more information on registration fees and to register, please visit our website.

Look for more details on these events in future editions of this newsletter, or follow us on Facebook and Twitter to receive updates as soon as they're available!

Questions? Contact petrie-flom@law.harvard.edu or 617-496-4662.

Subscribe to our Google Calendar to stay up to date on Petrie-Flom Center events.

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Other Harvard Events

Faculty Seminars led by Marcia Angell, MD

May 16, 2014
"Where We Stand"
Robert Kuttner, co-founder and co-editor, The American Prospect magazine, and Distinguished Senior Fellow, Demos
For the full 2013-2014 Medical Ethics Faculty Seminar schedule, click here.

Research on Potential Pandemic Pathogens: Are Limits Necessary to Contain Risks?
June 5, 2014, 4:30 - 6:00pm
Harvard Medical School, MEC Room 227, 260 Longwood Ave., Boston, MA

Speakers:

- Marc Lipsitch, DPhil, Professor of Epidemiology, Director, Center for Communicable Disease Dynamics, Harvard School of Public Health
- David A. Relman, MD, Thomas C. and Joan M. Merigan Professor, Departments of Medicine and of Microbiology and immunology, Stanford University
- Moderator: Robert Truog, MD, Professor of Medical Ethics, Anesthesiology, and Pediatrics, Director of Clinical Ethics, Harvard Medical School

Experimental studies involving the creation of potential pandemic pathogens - novel infectious agents that combine high human virulence with the likely ability to spread efficiently in human populations - have become increasingly common. Proponents claim that these experiments enhance our ability to detect naturally evolving pandemic threats and to develop countermeasures such as vaccines. Critics argue that the potential for accidental or malicious release, as well as the dissemination of information to others who may re-create these agents, pose measurable risks to human life and society. What ethical and risk-benefit frameworks might help in deciding whether imposed limitations on this research are advisable and justified?

DFCI Ethics Grand Rounds: Ethical Management of whole genome sequencing data
May 19, 2014, 12:00pm - 1:00pm
Smith Family Room, Dana 1620, Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, 44 Binney Street, Boston, MA

Raju Kucherlapati, M.D.
Paul C. Cabot Professor of Genetics and Professor of Medicine, HMS
Presidential Commission for the Study of Bioethics

Lunch will be served at 11:45am
Register Now:
What Evidence is Essential for New Medical Products?: Implications for Patients and Health Policy
June 13, 2014, 8:30am - 6:00pm
American Association for the Advancement of Science, Washington, D.C.

This event is co-sponsored by the American Association for the Advancement of Science, Division of Pharmacoepidemiology and Pharmacoeconomics of Brigham and Women's Hospital/Harvard Medical School, and National Research Center for Women & Families.

Conference Focus
Better implementation of evidence-based medicine can improve the quality and cost-effectiveness of health care in the U.S. This can be challenging in evaluating newly approved drugs and medical devices. While current law requires that medical products be proven safe and effective, there is growing pressure to expedite access to promising therapies and to lessen the research and regulatory requirements for manufacturers. Unmet medical needs and patient demands call for a flexible approach to prescription drug and device regulation, but truncated premarket review may also lead to approval of products that are less effective than expected or have unanticipated safety problems. This groundbreaking conference will review the growing body of research on the medical and public health implications of medical product approval criteria, and examine these findings in the context of patient outcomes, costs, and health policy.

Confirmed Speakers Include
Jerry Avorn, MD, Professor, Harvard Medical School; Greg Curfman, MD, Executive Editor, New England Journal of Medicine; Congresswoman Rosa DeLauro; Bernard Lo, MD, President, Greenwall Foundation; Rita Redberg, MD, Editor, JAMA Internal Medicine; Joseph Ross, MD, Yale Medical School; Patrick Ryan, MEng, PhD, Janssen Research and Development; Sebastian Schneeweiss, MD, Harvard Medical School; Lisa Schwartz, MD, Dartmouth; Joe Selby, MD, Executive Director, Patient Centered Outcomes Research Institute; Steven Woloshin, MD, Dartmouth; Robert Yarchoan, MD, National Cancer Institute.

For more details on the program and registration, please go to http://www.aaas.org/oZT. There is no cost for attending the event, but space is limited and advance registration is required.

NOTE: The Division of Medical Ethics at Harvard Medical School often has public programs likely to be of interest. More information is available here. The Healthcare Initiative at Harvard Business School also hosts a number of relevant events. For details, see here.
Public Workshop: Strategies for Responsible Sharing of Clinical Trial Data
May 5 - 7, 2014
Keck Center, Room 100, The National Academies, 500 5th Street, NW, Washington, D.C.

Petrie-Flom Center Faculty Co-Director I. Glenn Cohen will participate in a session on “Operational Principles for the Governance for Sharing Clinical Trial Data” on Monday, May 5, at 1:30pm.

From the workshop website:

Members of the public are welcome to attend the May 5 workshop in person or via live webcast.

On May 5, 2014, the Committee on Strategies for Responsible Sharing of Clinical Trial Data will hold an open public session to hear from invited speakers and the public. Meeting discussion will inform the development of final report to be released in December 2014.

The objectives of the open session are to: (a) Discuss the benefits, risks, and challenges of data sharing with medical product developers outside of large pharmaceutical companies, including small biotech/venture capital, diagnostics and other devices, and patient advocacy groups (b) Discuss incentives and disincentives in the global clinical trial landscape, particularly within research institutions, including universities, organizations that carry out data sharing, funders, journals, and other organizations involved in clinical trials. (c) Discuss guiding principles and characteristics for the optimal infrastructure and governance for sharing clinical trial data; and (d) seek public comment on potential strategies and approaches to facilitate responsible data sharing.

Provide your input to the Committee on Strategies for Responsible Sharing of Clinical Trial Data

The committee encourages all interested persons to submit written testimony to DataSharing@nas.edu. Written testimony that is submitted by COB to April 27, 2013 will be included in the committee’s meeting briefing materials, whether or not the submitter testifies in person.

The Ghosts In Our Machine film screening
Thursday, May 8, 2014, 7:00 p.m.
Kendall Square Cinema, Cambridge, MA

NEAVS [New England Anti-Vivisection Society] is hosting the Boston premiere screening of the new animal documentary The Ghosts In Our Machine on May 8. Tickets are now on sale. It's a wonderful film if you haven't seen it, and we're excited that the filmmakers will be joining us!

Tickets:
$12 General Admission; $10 Student or Senior

The award-winning animal documentary The Ghosts In Our Machine is a compassionate and hopeful film making waves in both the animal community and general public around the world. And director Liz Marshall and protagonist Jo-Anne McArthur will join us for a Q&A afterward!

'Ghosts' tells the story of the myriad ways humans exploit animals. By following the sensitive and heartfelt lens of acclaimed animal photographer Jo-Anne McArthur, the film offers an artistic balance of beauty without denying the reality of the animals' lives. Marshall skillfully portrays a hopeful landscape of alternatives by following McArthur as she enters the worlds and souls of animals caught in the “machine” of modern life or rescued to sanctuary.

Because it is a special one-night community screening, advance tickets are only being sold online through
Globalization and Healthcare Ethics  
May 19, 2014  
@BioethxChat on Twitter

Join Petrie-Flom Faculty Co-Director I. Glenn Cohen on May 19 for a live discussion hosted by BioethxChat on Twitter. Bill of Health blogger Daniel Goldberg, Assistant Professor in the Department of Bioethics & Interdisciplinary Studies at the Brody School of Medicine, East Carolina University, will host.

2014 Summer Institute for Informed Patient Choice  
The Legal and Ethical Implications of Keeping Patients in the Dark

June 25-27, 2014  
Dartmouth, Hanover, NH

The 2014 Summer Institute for Informed Patient Choice (SIIPC), taking place in Hanover, New Hampshire June 25-27, will convene medical, legal, ethics, and policy professionals and patient advocates around the individual and systems-level consequences of the lack of transparency and patient involvement in health care (i.e, "keeping patients in the dark"). Aims include facilitating a deeper understanding of the importance of greater transparency in health care; engaging in joint learning about innovative health care delivery methods to promote patient-centered care; and spreading innovative solutions such as value-based purchasing.

The program for this CLE and CME credit eligible event features a dynamic roster of over 20 confirmed speakers, two round robin style poster presentation sessions, and moderated small group working sessions during which breakthrough ideas will be channeled toward tangible outcomes such as a future special section in the Journal of Law, Medicine & Ethics.

For more information, including the full program and registration information, visit the website.

Cosponsored by the Dartmouth Center for Health Care Delivery Science; the American Society of Law, Medicine, and Ethics; Informed Medical Decisions Foundation; the Dartmouth Institute for Health Policy and Clinical Practice; BMJ; and emmi solutions.

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New Event Videos Available Online

New Directions for Food Safety: The Food Safety Modernization Act and Beyond

February 21, 2014
Opportunities at Harvard

Call for Applications: Petrie-Flom Center 2014-2015 Student Fellowship
Deadline: May 19, 2014, 9:00am

The Center and Student Fellowship. The Petrie-Flom Center for Health Law Policy, Biotechnology, and Bioethics is an interdisciplinary research program at Harvard Law School dedicated to the scholarly research of important issues at the intersection of law and health policy, including issues of health care financing and market regulation, biotechnology and intellectual property, biomedical research, and bioethics. The Student Fellowship Program is designed to support student research in these areas. More information on our current fellows and their work, is available on our website.

Eligibility. The student fellowship program is open to all Harvard graduate students who are committed to undertaking a significant research project and fulfilling other program requirements without exception during the year of their fellowship:

Writing Requirement. Student fellows will conduct independent research projects designed to lead to publishable articles in their fields. Fellows are expected to produce at least one such paper by the end of the academic year, with various deadlines for drafts throughout Fall and Spring. Papers written in connection with the fellowship can be used to satisfy the law school's third-year written work requirement or other optional writing credit by prior arrangement with and final approval of a faculty advisor who has agreed to supervise a fellow's work for this purpose.

Blogging Requirement. Student fellows will be expected to post on the Petrie-Flom Center's blog, "Bill of Health," at least once every other week during the Fall and Spring semesters and once during Winter term, with four passes available for the full academic year. Topics are self-determined; posts are subject to final approval by the Petrie-Flom Center, and are usually 700-800 words.

Curricular Component. Student fellows are required to enroll in the Health Law Policy and Bioethics Workshop at HLS. The workshop is intended to provide student fellows with opportunities to interact with leading scholars and academic fellows in the fields of health law and policy, with the expectation that these interactions will further enhance and inform their research and academic development. The Workshop for
2014-2015 is scheduled to take place on selected Mondays across the Fall and Spring semesters from 5-7pm; exact dates are not yet determined. Fellowship awardees will have priority enrollment.

**Presentations and Events.** Student fellows will be expected to present their research to Center affiliates and faculty during lunch sessions in the Spring semester. Student fellows may be asked to assist with panels and conferences organized by the Center, including organizing and reporting on events for Center publications.

**Resources.** The Center will award each fellow a $1,500 stipend, paid at the end of the academic year once all fellowship requirements (including submission of an acceptable paper) are completed. Additionally, fellows may be eligible to request additional funding to cover reasonable costs associated with their research projects (e.g., copying, publications, conference fees, travel).

**Application.** Applications will be accepted on a rolling basis until 9AM, Monday, May 19, 2014. Notifications of awards will be made by mid-summer for fellowships to begin in Fall 2014. To apply, email the following to petrie-flom@law.harvard.edu:

1. Your curriculum vitae;
2. A proposal summarizing the research and writing you intend to accomplish (1500 word maximum); and
3. A digital copy of your most current transcript (which need not be official, but should include grades through the Fall 2013 semester.)

For further questions, please contact Cristine Hutchison-Jones, Administrative Director, chutchisonjones@law.harvard.edu; 617-495-2316.

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**Jobs, Fellowships, and Other Opportunities**

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**Journal of Law and the Biosciences Soliciting Commentaries**

**Deadline: May 5, 2014**

*Journal of Law and the Biosciences (JLB)* is pleased to solicit Peer Commentaries for the following articles:

- **Towards an Ethics Safe Harbor for Global Biomedical Research**, by Edward S. Dove, Bartha M. Knoppers, and Ma'n H. Zawati

Peer Commentaries provide experts in a specific field an opportunity to share their views on an article within that field that has been published in the journal. Commentators can provide critiques, different perspectives, and complementary materials. Peer Commentaries may be a maximum of 2,500 words including citations.

To apply for submission, commentators should first submit a short, 250-word summary of the proposed Peer Commentary here. Proposals should be submitted as manuscript type "Commentary." Proposals will then be evaluated, and a select number of authors will be asked to submit a full commentary for review. For more information about peer commentaries, click here.

*JLB* is the first fully open access peer-reviewed legal journal focused on the advances at the intersection of law and the biosciences. A co-venture between Duke University, Harvard Law School, and Stanford University, and published by Oxford University Press, this open access, online, and interdisciplinary academic journal publishes cutting-edge scholarship in this important new field.
JLB is published as one volume with three issues per year with new articles posted online on an ongoing basis.

JLB encourages the submission of original manuscripts, responses, essays, and new developments devoted to the examination of issues related to the intersection of law and biosciences, including bioethics, neuroethics, genetics, reproductive technologies, stem cells, enhancement, patent law, and food and drug regulation. The Journal welcomes submissions of varying length, with a theoretical, empirical, practical, or policy oriented focus. For more information about JLB, click here. To submit a manuscript, click here. JLB is actively soliciting articles for the next issue, which will be published on July 8, 2014.

Call for Papers: McGill Journal of Law and Health
Special Issue on Health Law, Biotechnology, and Intellectual Property
Extended Deadline: May 19, 2014

The McGill Journal of Law and Health is an academic, peer-reviewed journal that publishes multidisciplinary articles on the intersection of health and law, both within Canada and at the international level. Now in our eighth year, we have a history of publishing research by major Canadian scholars working in this field. Our journal is entirely run by students from the undergraduate and graduate programs of the Faculty of Law at McGill University (Montreal, Canada). All of our archives are publicly available at http://mjlh.mcgill.ca, as well as by subscription in the Hein Online Law Journal Library.

The MJLH is currently targeting scholarship focused on the intersection of health law, biotechnology, and intellectual property. We are seeking submissions of papers addressing the complex legal issues raised by biotechnological innovation as well as the impact of intellectual property law on health policy and research. Scholars with interest and expertise in any areas related to these topics are specifically invited to contribute to the journal.

Submissions are welcome at any time. Of particular note: Submissions received by 24 March 2014 will be considered for inclusion in a proposed Special Issue on health law, biotechnology, and intellectual property.

Complete submission guidelines are available on our website at http://mjlh.mcgill.ca (choose "Submissions" from the menu).

View the full call here.

Call for Submissions:
The 1st Annual International Neuroethics Society Student Essay Prize
Deadline: May 20, 2014

The International Neuroethics Society is pleased to announce a call for submissions for a new student prize in neuroethics, which is envisioned to promote interest in neuroethics at an early stage in student's careers. All current postsecondary students in any discipline (undergraduate, graduate, or professional) are eligible and invited to submit a single-author essay on any topic in Neuroethics (e.g. ethical, legal, policy and social implications of neuroscience).

The benefits of having an essay selected as one of the top two scholarly essays include:

- Essay published in the Kopf Carrier (Newsletter of Kopf Instruments) as part of the "Neuroethics in Neuroscience Series" edited by Judy Illes (Director, National Core for Neuroethics, UBC),
- Essay fast-tracked for submission to the American Journal of Bioethics Neuroscience (AJOB-N), where it will be peer-reviewed and considered for publication,
- One year free membership with the International Neuroethics Society,
- Two $250 Michael Patterson Travel Stipends, which must be used to attend the 2014 Annual Meeting of the International Neuroethics Society in Washington, D.C. (Nov 13 & 14)
- Special opportunity to network with senior members and students at the November meeting.
Submission requirements:

- Essays should be single author, shorter than 2000 words (excluding references), double spaced, written in English, and should not have any identifying information (e.g., should not contain the student's name); authors will be anonymous to the reviewers.
- Students should include a cover page with name and contact information (address, phone, email), university, program affiliation, and year of study.
- Each Student may submit only one essay.
- Students may submit an original essay or one they have written previously as part of a course.
- If students submit an abstract to the INS meeting, they may also submit an essay here on the same topic.
- **Submission deadline is 20-May-2014.** Cover page and essay should be saved as a single file in the format "Surname_INS_Student_Essay_Prize.doc" and emailed to administrator@neuroethicsociety.org with the subject line: "INS Student Essay Prize".

About the International Neuroethics Society

The International Neuroethics Society is an interdisciplinary group of scholars, scientists, clinicians and other professionals who share an interest in the social, legal, ethical and policy implications of advances in neuroscience. The late 20th century saw unprecedented progress in the basic sciences of mind and brain and in the treatment of psychiatric and neurologic disorders. Now, in the 21st century, neuroscience plays an expanding role in human life beyond the research lab and clinic. In classrooms, courtrooms, offices and homes around the world, neuroscience is giving us powerful new tools for achieving our goals and prompting a new understanding of ourselves as social, moral and spiritual beings. Our mission is to promote the development and responsible application of neuroscience through interdisciplinary and international research, education, outreach and public engagement for the benefit of people of all nations, ethnicities, and cultures. For more information, see www.neuroethicsociety.org.

AJOB Editorial Manager/Research Assistant

**Center for Biomedical Ethics at Stanford University School of Medicine, Stanford, CA**

Open until filled.

All applicants must apply online at: www.jobs.stanford.edu

Search "staff" job position # 62388

**Job Description:** The Center for Biomedical Ethics (SCBE) is dedicated to interdisciplinary research and education in biomedical ethics, and provides clinical and research ethics consultation. SCBE also serves as a scholarly resource on emerging ethical issues raised by medicine and biomedical research. We are seeking a qualified candidate to support two distinct areas of effort:

The first is to support work on the Clinical Translational Science Award (CTSA), an NIH-funded five-year grant currently in its first year. A primary responsibility is to serve as the liaison between clinical researchers and the Bioethics Consultation Service (BECS), the role of which is to advise researchers on the ethical considerations of their projects. Duties include scheduling and attending consults, entering qualitative and quantitative data related to the course and outcome of the consults into the BECS excel database, tracking progress of the BECS service, and assisting in efforts of the faculty to incorporate the ethics consult service into the larger university research procedure as standard practice. Coordination of the CTSA Research Ethics Consultation Standardization Working Group, data collection from various CTSAs, and assistance with the project's publications (manuscripts, tables) will be required. Other duties will include obtaining information and reporting on previous consults and creating case studies from BECS reports for educational use. As well, literature review and manuscript preparation for CTSA-related research projects will be required. This position is also responsible for tracking project expenses and assisting the grant manager with expense forecasting.

The second major function, purpose and role is serving as Editorial Manager of the American Journal of Bioethics (AJOB). Duties include supervising the Editorial Assistant and monitoring the completion of her tasks; performing a first read-through of all submitted manuscripts; and assigning manuscripts to the most suitable Associate Editor.
(after deeming them suitable for publication/peer review). Responsibilities also include organizing the annual journal-wide editorial board meeting; managing the workflows of all Associate Editors; inviting peer reviewers for various articles and oversee the timely return of peer reviews; oversee the timely completion of all steps in the editorial process (basically going from managing submissions through designing issues for publication); answering all inquiries from both potential and actual authors; distributing and overseeing the timely return of Conflict of Interest forms from all authors; reviewing through revised manuscripts to determine whether the proper revisions have been made; and checking/correcting final proofs of issues before publication. As well, guide the development of the cover for each issue; develop and maintain the final Table of Contents for each issue (to be sent to the publisher, Taylor & Francis); editing the code (HTML) of the Manuscript Central homepage (editorial site where all submissions come through) to reflect the availability of new target articles for commentary; sending out broadcast emails to the larger AJOB community (~5000 people) to solicit commentaries for these new target articles; sending personal invitations for commentary to desired contributors (often prominent members of the field of Bioethics); selecting submitted commentaries for publication (after reading through all submissions).

**Also included:** Overseeing updates to and maintenance of [www.bioethics.net](http://www.bioethics.net); managing the AJOB Twitter, Facebook, and LinkedIn accounts; coordinating correspondences between editors of the journal and the publisher, Taylor & Francis; serving as the primary liaison between Taylor & Francis (publisher) and the AJOB editorial team/office; serve as the primary contact for authors along all steps of the editorial process.

**Qualifications:** The candidate must have a two-year college degree in a social or health science field, and two years of experience in administration, writing or editing, and developmental biology, health or social science research, or an equivalent combination of education and experience; BA/BS preferred. We prefer candidates with a background in bioethics and some research experience. This position also requires English fluency with excellent writing and editing skills, with high attention to detail. Experience in data mining (e.g. scientific, theoretical and social science literature reviews) in media forms such as journals and national government databases (including "PubMed.gov") is required. Must possess excellent organizational and interpersonal skills. Other necessary skills include proficiency in MS Office computer software programs (Word, Excel, Outlook and PowerPoint), the ability to interpret financial reports and a demonstrated ability to work on multiple projects simultaneously. Prefer budget forecasting and expense reporting experience. Experience supervising support staff is a plus.

### 2014 Causal Inference Workshops: Main and Advanced

Registration open until filled.

Northwestern University and Duke University are holding two workshops on Research Design for Causal Inference this year. We invite you to attend either or both. Apologies for the length of this message, which covers both.

**Main workshop:** Monday - Friday, July 7-11, 2014 [at Northwestern]

**Advanced workshop:** Wednesday - Friday, August 13-15, 2014 [at Duke]

Both workshops will be taught by world-class causal inference researchers. See below for details. Registration for each is limited to 100 participants. We filled the main workshop quickly last year, so please register soon.

**For information and to register:** [law.northwestern.edu/faculty/conferences/causalinference/](http://law.northwestern.edu/faculty/conferences/causalinference/)

**Main Workshop Overview:** Research design for causal inference is at the heart of a "credibility revolution" in empirical research. We will cover the design of true randomized experiments and contrast them to "natural" or "quasi" experiments and to "pure observational studies," where part of the sample is "treated" in some way, and the remainder is a control group, but the researcher controls neither the assignment of cases to treatment and control groups nor administration of the treatment. We will assess what causal inferences one can draw from a research design, threats to valid inference, and research designs that can mitigate those threats.

Most empirical methods courses survey a variety of methods. We will begin instead with the goal of causal inference, and discuss how to design research to come closer to that goal. The methods are often adapted to a
particular study. Some of the methods are covered in PhD programs, but rarely in depth, and rarely with a focus on causal inference and on which methods to use with messy, real-world datasets and limited sample sizes. Each day will include with a Stata "workshop" to illustrate selected methods with real data and Stata code.

**Advanced Workshop Overview:** The advanced workshop seeks to provide an in-depth discussion of selected topics that are beyond what we can cover in the main workshop. Principal topics for 2014 include: Day 1: Choosing estimands (the science), and how choice of estimand affects research design. Principal stratification methods (a little known, but very powerful extension of the always taken/never-taker/complier/defier categories developed in "causal IV"); advanced matching methods; multiple imputation of missing potential outcomes. Day 2: Simulation studies; bootstrap methods; advanced topics in regression discontinuity design. Day 3: Causal inference with panel data. Topics will include handling treatment heterogeneity, handling time dynamics, synthetic controls, marginal structural models, and standard errors.

**Registration and Workshop Cost:** Main workshop tuition is $850 ($500 for graduate students (PhD, SJD, or law) and post-docs). Advanced workshop tuition is $550 ($350 for graduate students and post-docs). There are additional discounts (to $350 and $200) for Northwestern or Duke-affiliated attendees. The workshop fees include all materials, temporary Stata13 license, breakfast, lunch, snacks, and an evening reception on the first day of each program. All amounts will increase by $50 roughly two months before the workshop (May 22 for the main workshop, but this workshop is likely to fill up before then). See website for registration deadlines and cancellation policy. We know the workshops are not cheap. We use the funds to pay our speakers and for meals and other expenses; we don't pay ourselves.

**Workshop Organizers:**

Mathew McCubbins (Duke University). Professor of Political Science and Law at Duke University, with positions in the Law School and the Political Science Department, and director of the Center for Law and Democracy. Principal research interests: democratic institutions, legislative organization; behavioral experiments, communication, learning and decisionmaking; statutory interpretation, administrative procedure, research design; network economics. Web page with link to CV: [www.mccubbins.us](http://www.mccubbins.us). Papers on SSRN: [http://ssrn.com/author=17402](http://ssrn.com/author=17402).

**Questions about the workshops:** Please email Bernie Black ([bblack@northwestern.edu](mailto:bblack@northwestern.edu)) or Mat McCubbins ([mathew.mccubbins@duke.edu](mailto:mathew.mccubbins@duke.edu)) for substantive questions or fee waiver requests, and Michael Cooper ([causalinference@law.northwestern.edu](mailto:causalinference@law.northwestern.edu)) for logistics and registration.

**Health Law Counsel, Aetna, Inc.**

Open until filled.

**POSITION SUMMARY**

This position will support Lead Privacy and Behavioral Health Counsel in providing legal advice and recommendations for action regarding matters of complexity as well as more routine privacy matters. This position is generally focused on providing day-to-day legal guidance to the Privacy Office and applying knowledge in the following areas of law: federal and state privacy laws (i.e., HIPAA, Federal Substance Abuse confidentiality, state privacy laws, etc.), data security laws and other areas as needed, as s/he develops a deeper knowledge of the business operations of the company.

Among other duties, this position may: (i) research legal principles and precedents; (ii) draft and negotiate Business Associate Agreements, Data Use Agreements and various non-disclosure agreements; (iii) draft and review privacy policies, including privacy policies for websites and mobile apps; (iv) assist with regulatory complaints, and related matters; and (vi) provide general privacy counsel to internal clients.
EDUCATION
The highest level of education desired for candidates in this position is a JD.

LICENSES AND CERTIFICATIONS
Legal/Bar Association is required

FUNCTIONAL EXPERIENCES
Functional - Legal/Compliance/1-3 Years
Functional - Legal/Compliance - law searches/1-3 Years

REQUIRED SKILLS
Leadership/Creating Accountability/MASTERY
Leadership/Driving a Culture of Compliance/MASTERY
General Business/Maximizing Work Practices/MASTERY

DESIRED SKILLS
General Business/Communicating for Impact/MASTERY
Sales/Negotiating collaboratively/MASTERY
Service/Handling Service Challenges/MASTERY

ADDITIONAL JOB INFORMATION
Basic knowledge of state and federal health benefits privacy law preferable. IT literacy desirable. Candidate should be interested in developing a mastery of this legal area and applying skills to problem solving and risk management in a rapidly changing and critical area.

Please note that benefit eligibility may vary by position. Click here to review the benefits associated with this position.

Additional opportunities:

- **Neuroethics Faculty Position**, Center for Ethics and Humanities in the Life Sciences, Michigan State University, review of applications began February 28—position open until filled.
- **Postdoctoral Fellow to provide quantitative analytical support for Public Health Law research**, Temple University Beasley School of Law, open until filled
- Summer Internships, Axiom Law, contact recruitment manager Sutton Kraus at Sutton.Kauss@axiomlaw.com, open until filled
- Director, Master of Arts in Bioethics Program, Emory University Center for Ethics and Laney Graduate School; for questions contact Paul Root Wolpe, Center Director, at pwolpe@emory.edu; review of applications began on March 31, 2014—position open until filled.
- **The Foundation for Child Development (FCD) Young Scholars Program (YSP)**, Deadline: early May

We share announcements of jobs and fellowships and calls for proposals as they are received. We generally include detailed descriptions for one month, or two cycles of the newsletter; after one month we share titles and deadlines along with a link to the item’s online description, when available, until the deadline passes. If you have opportunities that you would like to share via the Petrie-Flom newsletter, please contact Administrative Director Cristine Hutchison-Jones at chutchisonjones@law.harvard.edu.

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