Petrie-Flom Welcomes New Executive Director!

We are thrilled to announce that Carmel Shachar, JD, MPH (HLS '10, HSPH '10), will join the Petrie-Flom Center for Health Law Policy, Biotechnology, and Bioethics at Harvard Law School as our next Executive Director. In this role, Carmel will be responsible for oversight of the Center's sponsored research portfolio, event programming, fellowships, student engagement, development, and a range of other projects and collaborations.

"We are delighted that Carmel will be joining the Center," said I. Glenn Cohen, Professor of Law and Faculty Director of the Petrie-Flom Center. "Throughout her career, Carmel has focused on designing, developing, and executing large health law and policy projects. This expertise and leadership will be a strong resource for the Center as it implements the vision for its second decade."

"Carmel is bursting with ideas to build and grow the Center, and I look forward to seeing what the Center will accomplish under her leadership," said Holly Fernandez Lynch, outgoing Executive Director. "Carmel's experience in health policy will be an incredible asset to the Center's portfolio of work, especially at this time of national tumult."

Learn more about Carmel - check out the full announcement on our website!

APPLY TODAY! 2017-2018 Petrie-Flom Center Student Fellowship

The Student Fellowship Program is designed to support closely-mentored student research 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 program is open to all Harvard graduate students who will be enrolled at the University during the fellowship year and who are committed to undertaking a significant research project and fulfilling other program requirements. Although the fellowship is open to all graduate students, including those in one-year programs, we encourage those who are in multi-year programs to wait until after their first year to apply. Please note that the most successful research proposals will describe an idea and novel contribution, rather than simply a topic of interest. We recognize that students will be applying from a range of disciplines, which we strongly encourage; thus, we will account for a student's field and typical standards for work in their discipline when evaluating applications.

For more information on our recent fellows and their work, see our website and check out profiles of some of our past Fellows in the PFC Spotlight!

Alumna Michael Anne Kyle (2015-2016), PhD student in Health Policy and Management at Harvard University, summarized her experience as a Student Fellow:
"I will come away from my student fellowship with a deeper appreciation for how the law works. Although I have only scratched the surface and have mainly learned how much I don't know, I have a stronger set of tools with which to engage with legal scholars and scholarship - and will probably follow topics I never would have otherwise. I have long been a proponent of clinical immersion experiences, and this year I have learned that academic immersion offers similarly eye-opening exposure to my colleagues in other fields and intellectual traditions. I'm grateful to my classmates and professors for the opportunity to get a glimpse of this new world."

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Slides Now Available!

**2017 Petrie-Flom Annual Conference:**

**Transparency in Health and Health Care: Legal and Ethical Possibilities and Limits**

Held April 28, 2017 at Harvard Law School

Slides for this event are now available on our [website](#)!

And you can still check out the conversation on Twitter: [@PetrieFlom](#) #transparencyinhealth!

Transparency is a relatively new concept to the world of health and health care, considering that just a few short decades ago we were still in the throes of a "doctor-knows-best" model. Today, however, transparency is found on almost every short list of solutions to a variety of health policy problems, ranging from conflicts of interest to rising drug costs to promoting efficient use of health care resources, and more. Doctors are now expected to be transparent about patient diagnoses and treatment options, hospitals are expected to be transparent about error rates, insurers about policy limitations, companies about prices, researchers about data, and policymakers about priorities and rationales for health policy intervention. But a number of important legal and ethical questions remain. For example, what exactly does transparency mean in the context of health, who has a responsibility to be transparent and to whom, what legal mechanisms are there to promote transparency, and what legal protections are needed for things like privacy, intellectual property, and the like? More specifically, when can transparency improve health and health care, and when is it likely to be nothing more than platitude?

This conference aimed to: (1) identify the various thematic roles transparency has been called on to play in American health policy, and why it has emerged in these spaces; (2) understand when, where, how, and why transparency may be a useful policy tool in relation to health and health care, what it can realistically be expected to achieve, and when it is unlikely to be successful, including limits on how patients and consumers utilize information even when we have transparency; (3) assess the legal and ethical issues raised by transparency in health and health care, including obstacles and opportunities; (4) learn from comparative examples of transparency, both in other sectors and outside the United States. In sum, we hope to reach better understandings of this health policy buzzword so that transparency can be utilized as a solution to pressing health policy issues where appropriate, while recognizing its true limitations.

Video of the conference panels will be available soon!

Sponsored by the [Petrie-Flom Center for Health Law Policy, Biotechnology, and Bioethics](#) at Harvard Law School and the [Center for Bioethics](#) at Harvard Medical School, with support from the Oswald DeN. Cammann Fund.

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**Scholarship from Petrie-Flom Affiliates**

**Law, Religion, and Health in the United States**

By Holly Fernandez Lynch (Executive Director), I. Glenn Cohen (Faculty Director), and Elizabeth Sepper

Cambridge University Press, July 2017
Innovative Contracting for Pharmaceuticals and Medicaid's Best-Price Rule
By Rachel E. Sachs (Academic Fellow Alumna), Nicholas Bagley, and Darius Lakdawalla
Journal of Health Politics, Policy and Law, Forthcoming

Promoting demand-side innovation: prizes for payers
By Rachel E. Sachs
Journal of Law and the Biosciences, May 5, 2017

Revised 'Common Rule' Shapes Protections For Research Participants
By Barbara E. Bierer, Mark Barnes, and Holly Fernandez Lynch (Executive Director)
Health Affairs, Vol. 36, no. 5, May 2017

News from Petrie-Flom Affiliates

There's a federal law to lower drug prices-and Louisiana may just use it
By Beth Mole, quoting Rachel E. Sachs (Academic Fellow Alumna)
Ars Technica, May 4, 2017

Louisiana proposes tapping a century-old patent law to cut hepatitis C drug prices
By Sarah Jane Tribble, quoting Rachel E. Sachs
Kaiser Health News, May 2, 2017
This article also appeared in the Washington Post.

Second Chance Kids
Featuring Robert Kinscherff (Senior Fellow in Law and Applied Neuroscience)
Frontline, PBS, May 2, 2017

Sessions Suspends DOJ Forensic Science Commission (Audio)
By David Sucherman, featuring Christopher Robertson (Academic Fellow Alumnus)
Bloomberg Radio, April 11, 2017

Recent Blog Posts

Citizen Science Blog Symposium:
* "What is Citizen Science anyway? Introduction to the new blog symposium "Citizen
Science," by Barbara Prainsack, Alena Buyx, and Amelia Fiske
- "Self-reporting and participatory health platforms: Empowerment through sharing information about oneself online?," by Dana Mahr
- "Experiential Knowledge, Public Participation, and the Challenge to the Authority of Science in the 1970s," by Bruno J. Strasser and Dana Mahr
- "More than Data Collectors: Valuing Data Expertise Beyond Professional Science," by Sabina Leonelli
- "Do-It-Yourself Biology as Citizen Science: Taking Participation a Step Further," by Rosen Bogdanov and Eduard Aibar
- "Citizen Science where there are no citizens: participation and exclusion in Antarctic science," by Vanessa Heggie
- "Health in the Factory: The Historical Roots of Italian Citizen Science," by Giulia Frezza and Mauro Capocci
- "Citizen Science: Non-scientists enable sampling conditions in ocean sciences," by Gregor Halfmann
- "Citizen Science and Precision Medicine: a Route to Democracy in Health?," by Ilaria Galasso and Giuseppe Testa
- "Quantified Self as Personal (Citizen) Science," by Nils B. Heyen

General health law/policy"

- "Health Law Rankings - Another Perspective," by Scott Burris
- "Birth Plans as Advance Directives," by Nadia N. Sawicki
- "Sentinal Policy Surveillance: A New Front in Legal Epidemiology?," by Scott Burris

Health insurance, health care reform/finance:

- "A Quarter of the Work Force: International Medical Graduates and the Lives They Save," by Wendy S. Salkin

'The Week in Health Law' podcasts:

- "Khiara Bridges on 'The Week in Health Law' Podcast," by Nicolas Terry and Frank Pasquale
- "Robert Smoldt on 'The Week in Health Law' Podcast," by Nicolas Terry and Frank Pasquale

Petrie-Flom Center Events

Check out our website for a more complete listing of events as well as full co-sponsorship information about our collaborators. Remember, you can find materials from many of our events, including slide presentations and full event videos, online in our events archive.

**Critical Pathways to Improved Care for Serious Illness: Second Roundtable Convening**
June 23, 2017
Wasserstein Hall, Milstein East (2036), Harvard Law School
1585 Massachusetts Ave., Cambridge, MA

This project is funded by the Gordon & Betty Moore Foundation, and this convening is part of the Project on Advanced Care and Health Policy, a collaboration between the Coalition to Transform Advanced Care (C-TAC) and the Petrie-Flom Center for Health Law Policy, Biotechnology, and Bioethics at Harvard Law School.

**2017 Petrie-Flom Center Annual Open House**
September 13, 2017, 5:30 PM
Wasserstein Hall, HLS Pub (1st Floor), Harvard Law School
1585 Massachusetts Ave., Cambridge, MA
Other Events

**Introduction to U.S. Drug Law and Regulation**
June 14-15, 2017
Foley Hoag, Seaport West, 155 Seaport Boulevard,
Boston, MA 02210

Harvard Opportunities

**2017-2018 Petrie-Flom Center Student Fellowship**
Harvard Law School
Application Due: August 4, 2017 (applications accepted on rolling basis)

Other Opportunities

All opportunities are posted once in our newsletter. For the full posting and for other available positions, please visit our [website](#).

**Call for Proposals**
Health Data for Action
Application Due: May 24, 2017 3 PM ET

**Call for Proposals**
FDLI
Application Due: May 25, 2017

**Call for Abstracts**
Department of Health and Human Services
Application Due: June 9, 2017

**Call for Abstracts: Wiet Life Science Law Scholars Conference**
Loyola University Chicago’s Beazley Institute for Health Law and Policy
Application Due: June 15, 2017

**Yale Clinical Fellowship in Global Health Justice**
Yale Law School and Yale School of Public Health
Application Due: Open until filled

Stay Connected!