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The newsletter of the NEISWANGER INSTITUTE FOR BIOETHICS AND HEALTH POLICY  
LOYOLA UNIVERSITY CHICAGO STRITCH SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

## From the Director: The Spirit of Engagement



The Neiswanger Institute for Bioethics and Health Policy has completed its third year of operation. It is a most successful time. Through the efforts of our faculty and staff, and with the support of the Loyola University Chicago commun-

ity, we have built an exciting online graduate program, begun to develop a strong research agenda, and have assisted the Stritch School of Medicine in implementing a variety of new curricular initiatives related to professionalism. In the pages that follow, we provide an overview of some of these efforts.

The Neiswanger Institute clearly follows the standard paradigm of being devoted to education, research, and service in bioethics and health policy. We believe that the character of our efforts reflects the values of the Loyola University Chicago Stritch School of Medicine with its Jesuit and Catholic heritage. Our efforts are informed by a profound respect for the dignity of the person and an eye to promoting justice in health care. While these values inform our work, that work is propelled by the spirit of engagement that is deep within the roots of our university and its sponsoring Order, the Society of Jesus.

The faculty of the Neiswanger Institute continually devise new ways to reach out to communities we wish to engage. This is not a unidirectional movement but also brings back to the Institute a rich supply of intellectual and interpersonal resources and stimulation through dialogue with those we engage. In our description of our web-based M.A. program, you'll be introduced to several of those enrolled in the program. You'll quickly agree that our faculty are likely to be the main learners when engaged with people of such impressive backgrounds. Similarly, you'll see that our efforts to serve the Catholic health care community through an annual meeting enable us to bring many of the leading bioethicists to our campus for a fruitful exchange with health-care providers and mission leaders from across the nation. The needs and insights of these communities inform and transform the work and the faculty of the Neiswanger Institute.

—Mark Kuczewski, Ph.D.  
Director, Neiswanger Institute for  
Bioethics & Health Policy  
Loyola University Chicago,  
Stritch School of Medicine

Volume 2, Winter 2004

## Online M.A. Program to Offer Ethics Consultation Simulations Course

“Many are called, but few have formal training,” to paraphrase a piece of ancient wisdom. Virtually every hospital in the United States has a person on staff who will help resolve concerns or a conflict concerning a treatment decision or some other problem of ethical import. But there are precious few formal training programs to help these people develop the interactive skills and interpersonal techniques they'll need to be effective bedside consultants. The graduate program in bioethics and health policy at the Neiswanger Institute is trying to help remedy this situation.

Students from the online Master of Arts program will gather at the Stritch School of Medicine in July to perform simulated ethics consultations for three days. Each will conduct a consult in which the patients and/or patient's families are “played” by persons who have been trained in roles as “standardized patients.” Typically, these professionals have been trained to perform patient roles for medical students who must practice communication and interpersonal techniques. These highly skilled individuals standardized patients are able to make the interaction so realistic that it provides genuine “practice” at performing consults for the graduate students. As most hospitals have only a small number of ethics consultations each month, trying to get this kind of practice by shadowing consultants would normally take years. Simulations can provide a large amount of experience in a short amount of time.

Each consultation will be videotaped in an unobtrusive manner thanks to the capabilities of the Clinical Skills Center at the Stritch School of Medicine (SSOM). The Clinical Skills Center also enables other students and faculty to watch the consult from a secluded room.



Pictured (l-r): Kenneth Micetich, M.D., Wanda Sanchez, Michael Koller, M.D.



Drs. Kenneth Micetich (r) and Michael Koller (l) demonstrate an ethics consult with Wanda Sanchez (SSOM Education Programs). Kenneth Micetich, M.D. is a Professor of Medicine, Div. of Hematology and Oncology, Stritch School of Medicine, IRB Chairman and Medical Center Ethics Committee Chairman, Loyola University Medical Center. Michael Koller, M.D. is the Quality Improvement Medical Director – Primary Care Division, Loyola University Medical Center, Asst. Professor of Medicine, Course Director – Introduction to the Practice of Medicine and a member of the Clinical Skills Center Steering Committee, Stritch School of Medicine.

Thus, those performing the consultation can critique their own performances by reviewing the videotape and will receive the feedback of peers, instructors, and the standardized patient. According to Edward Gurza, M.D., Director of the Clinical Skills Center, “The clinical skills facilities at Stritch are state of the art and have done much to make the Stritch School of Medicine a national leader in medical education. The Stritch School of Medicine is proud to be able to share these resources to assist in the development of clinical ethics consultants from around the country.”

Of course, one might wonder why a web-based degree program is offering this on-campus elective. In short, because it's what's needed. That is, we believe the online environment is, in many ways, superior to classroom-only courses. The discussion can be more student-centered, interactive, and in-depth. However, neither the classroom nor the web are ideal for practicing the kind of interpersonal facilitation skills an ethics consultant needs. Thus the progressive and dedicated educators of the Institute are working to meet the needs of the students in the program by designing new and relevant courses and utilizing the best means possible to achieve our pedagogical aims.

[To view a sample video of an ethics consultation suitable for training purposes or for more information about this course in the graduate program, visit the website <http://bioethics.lumc.edu> or write us at [onlinemasters@lumc.edu](mailto:onlinemasters@lumc.edu)]

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Visit our web site at <http://bioethics.lumc.edu>

# The “Students” in the Online M.A. Program: The Secret of our Success

The unique web-based Master of Arts program in Bioethics and Health Policy is thriving by any measure. Enrollment is strong, feedback has been extremely positive, and of the greatest import, the people matriculating in the program are of an unprecedented caliber.

The program is now in its second year of operation. Under the direction of Kayhan, Parsi, J.D., Ph.D., the program is designed to be unique in several ways:

- ∑ The program can be completed entirely through web-based coursework.
- ∑ It accepts only persons who have a graduate (e.g., M.A., M.S., M.T.S., S.T.D., Ph.D.) or professional degree (e.g., M.D., J.D., L.L.M., M.S.W.)
- ∑ The web-based format means that in addition to the courses by the nationally recognized faculty of the Neiswanger Institute, occasional courses can be taught by faculty from other campuses of Loyola University Chicago (for instance, Mark Waymack, Ph.D., and Jennifer Parks, Ph.D., of the philosophy department teach the Principles of Health Care Ethics course) and by faculty from other Jesuit universities around the nation.
- ∑ Faculty members offer a wide variety of on-campus electives that students can utilize as meets their individual educational needs (see “M.A. Program to Pilot Ethics Consultation Simulations”)

Design is one thing but the real world can be another. The Neiswanger Institute designed the program for leaders who work in health care or academia and desire additional ethics training, but we have been amazed at the degree to which the quality of our students has exceeded our most optimistic forecasts. Of course, populating the courses with health-care professionals, academics, and researchers insures the quality of our courses because these course formats are student-centered in nature.

The typical online course is built around week-long themes. Students log in to the online environment, read a lecture that the instructor has posted, read supplemental readings, and then spend the remainder of the week discussing cases or questions provided by the instructor. The discussions form the focus of the course and students sharpen their analytic and consensus-building skills in these high-powered interchanges. Because each discussion takes place over the course of a week, the volume of thoughts and insights posted easily exceeds those of traditional real time courses. And, of course, when those involved in the discussion share experiences garnered in the laboratory, at the bedside, in the IRB, or in the boardroom, the discussion is enriched in ways that challenge all learners, including the professors. As Kayhan Parsi, J.D., Ph.D., notes, “In many ways, the online M.A. program challenges each of us to be lifelong learners and colleagues rather than students and teachers. The online program in bioethics is a study in how knowledge in the contemporary world must be constructed collaboratively, not simply ingested from textbooks and lectures.” [For more information about the graduate program, visit the website <http://bioethics@lumc.edu> or write us at [online masters@lumc.edu](mailto:online masters@lumc.edu)]

## Online Continuing Medical Education (CME) Rounds Out Loyola Offerings

The Neiswanger Institute is making available a series of one-hour sessions on topics in bioethics for which Continuing Medical Education (CME) credit is available. To view the video sessions, simply go to <http://bioethics.lumc.edu> and click on “Online CME.” Anyone can view these interesting videos. However, to obtain the CME credit, you’ll need to follow the registration instructions on the website. There is a service charge of \$25.00 for each CME credit hour.

The sessions will include presentations from nationally recognized guest faculty such as a discussion of patient safety by Gladys White, Ph.D. The hallmark of the site will be introductory as well as advanced talks on bioethical issues including end of life decision making, and spirituality and health care by Stritch School of Medicine faculty such as Myles Sheehan, S.J., M.D., Kevin O’Rourke, O.P., J.C.D., Kevin Simpson, M.D., and Mark Kuczewski, Ph.D.

It is natural that the Loyola University Chicago Stritch School of Medicine would seek to offer this service as it is already an established leader in web-based medical and graduate bioethics education. The online M.A. program reaches out to health care professionals across the country and the Loyola University Medical Education Network (LUMEN) makes available undergraduate medical education materials to all visitors, receiving approximately 10 million hits per month. CME, in many ways, represents the natural complement to these efforts. “The faculty of the Stritch School of Medicine are enormously dedicated and creative educators. We are very pleased to be able to share their expertise with the national medical community through the online medium,” said Stephen Slogoff, Dean of the Loyola University Chicago Stritch School of Medicine.

## Student Profiles:



**Karama Neal, Ph.D.**  
*Atlanta, Georgia*

Karama Neal has a doctorate in genetics and molecular biology

from Emory University and currently works in bioinformatics for Incyte Corporation. She is a former chemistry teacher at the Arkansas School for Math and Science, a public, residential high school. Her major interests are in genetics and ethics, research ethics, and bioethics in developing countries. “I see ethics study, in part, as a way to shift my career and still use my scientific training. I’m not exactly sure where this path will lead me, but I’m very excited about the journey.” Dr Neal also recently remarked, “I live and work in the Atlanta area, but since Incyte is based in California and Massachusetts, I work online. Given my involvement with the M.A. program, I’m going to be tied to my computer for a while!”

**Patrick McCrudden, M.T.S.**  
*Hot Springs, Arkansas*

Mr. McCrudden is the Vice President for Mission and Ethics for St. Joseph’s Mercy Health Center, Hot Springs, Arkansas. He chairs the hospital’s ethics committee and Institutional Review Board (IRB). Mr. McCrudden has authored a peer-reviewed publication with Mark Kuczewski, Ph.D. (Kuczewski, M.G., McCrudden, P. (2001) *Informed Consent: Does It Take a Village? The Problem of Truth Telling and Culture*, Cambridge Quarterly of Healthcare Ethics, 10(1): 34-46, reprinted in Carol Levine (ed.), *Taking Sides: Clashing Views on Controversial Bioethical Issues*, New York: McGraw-Hill Companies, 10th edition, 2003.) Patrick is presently on track to be the first graduate of the M.A. program.



**Stephen Sodeke, Ph.D.**  
*Tuskegee, Alabama*

Stephen Olufemi Sodeke currently serves as Interim

Director of the National Center for Bioethics in Research and Health Care at Tuskegee University. Originally from Nigeria, his background is that of a

clinical laboratory scientist. The Center is in its fifth year of operation and is charged to give voice, to help re-build trust, to regain confidence, and to empower people of color and other vulnerable populations, in an effort to address ethical issues affecting the health, wellness, and welfare of these populations. “It has been a challenging task, and part of the challenge is what led me to undertake bioethics training of this kind to develop sophisticated knowledge, skills and attitude needed to move the Center forward.” He has also served as a member of the Tuskegee University Institutional review Board (IRB) for 10 years including serving as chair for the last three.

**Sr. Kathleen Cain, M.S., M.B.A., J.D.**  
*Baton Rouge, Louisiana*

Sr. Kathleen Cain has a Bachelor’s degree in business administration and two master’s degrees, an M.B.A. and an M.S. in management. She also holds a J.D. from Loyola University New Orleans School of Law. She is a Franciscan Missionary of our Lady, an international Catholic religious congregation whose ministry includes operating hospitals, nursing homes, clinics, and an allied health college. Sr. Kathleen has worked in the health care arena for about 30 years holding a variety of administrative posts. She has served on several hospital boards of directors and is presently on the congregation’s health system board. For the past five years Sr. Kathleen has operated a law firm in which she is the managing partner. This firm provides educational programs to the congregation’s health system staff and represents individuals who are in need of legal assistance but who may not be able to pay in the traditional way. She says of the online M.A. program, “I do not have a flexible enough schedule to study in the typical college setting but need to learn more in the bioethics arena. This sounded like an excellent way to gain knowledge and learn from the experiences of others. Our health system is looking to the future and although we have ethics committees in all of our institutions we feel that the health system will have a unique role in the future to play that goes beyond the local ethics committees. I hope to contribute to this effort by sharing the resources I obtain through the M.A. program.”

## Gordon Receives NIH Award

Elisa J. Gordon, Ph.D., has been awarded a 5-year Career Development Award (K01) from the National Institutes of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases, for her project “Self-Care and Outcomes Among Kidney Transplant Recipients.” This award will provide Dr. Gordon an exciting opportunity to develop into an independent research investigator by conducting this research study and engaging in concurrent mentored scholarly activity, including obtaining a Master’s degree in Public Health (MPH).

Dr. Gordon’s interdisciplinary and longitudinal study examines the economic and cultural strategies kidney transplant recipients use to survive in the context of limited resources. The goal is to determine whether such strategies have an impact on patient survival, and might explain ethnic/racial disparities in survival rates. Identifying the sociocultural and economic processes associated with better graft survival and health outcomes is important for: a) preventing kidney rejection, b) devising compliance interventions, c) preparing candidates for transplant through education, d) evaluating health policies designed to prevent financial barriers to kidney transplantation, and e) eliminating disparities in access to kidney transplantation.

This study reflects Dr. Gordon’s commitment to the exploration of ethical issues relating to justice and ethnic and racial disparities in access to health care. She uses a combination of empirical research methods and the analysis of health policies to inform her research.



# Ethics in Health Care: The Catholic Perspective

## Neiswanger Institute and Catholic Health Association to offer conference March 3-5, 2004

For the first time, the Neiswanger Institute and the Catholic Health Association (CHA) have teamed up to bring together leading moral theologians and health-care ethicists to confront the moral challenges on the horizon for Catholic health care providers. The conference is designed in two parts: (1) A one-day introduction to the Catholic perspective on bioethics that addresses theological foundations, methods, and the Ethical and Religious Directives for Catholic Health Care Services promulgated by the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops; and (2) Two days of presentations exploring contemporary topics in health care ethics.

The Neiswanger Institute for Bioethics and Health Policy is part of the Loyola University Chicago Stritch School of Medicine, one of only five Catholic medical schools in the country. Thus, the institute faculty members take seriously their responsibility to provide some programming specifically addressing the needs of Catholic health care institutions. This partnership with the CHA provides a tremendous opportunity to reach out and collaborate with executive leaders, mission leaders, pastoral care staffs, members of ethics committees, clinicians, sponsors, and others in the Catholic health ministry.

### Conference Location/Contact Information

Neiswanger Institute for Bioethics and Health Policy  
Loyola University Chicago Stritch School of Medicine  
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Fr. Kevin O'Rourke

### Program Schedule

#### Wednesday, March 3

9:00 am	Registration
10:00 am	Welcome
10:15 am	Health Care as Mission, Sr. Jean deBlois, C.S.J., Ph.D.
11:30 am	Lunch
1:00 pm	Method in Catholic Health Care Ethics, Rev. Kevin O'Rourke, O.P.
2:30 pm	Overview of the Ethical and Religious Directives for Catholic Health Care Services, Ron Hamel, Ph.D.
4:00pm	Integrative Reflection

#### Thursday, March 4

8:30 am	Continental Breakfast will be served before first session
9:00 am	Death and Dying: Medical and Spiritual Aspects, Rev. Myles Sheehan, S.J., M.D.
10:30 am	Transplant Ethics: Non-Heart-Beating Donors, James DuBois, Ph.D., D.Sc.
12 noon	Lunch
1:00pm	Organizational Ethics: Corporate and Mission Issues, Anne Neale, Ph.D.
2:30pm	Clinical Genetics, Rev. Kevin Fitzgerald, S.J., Ph.D. and John Lee, M.D., Ph.D.
4:00pm	Case Studies in Genetics
5:00pm	Eucharistic Liturgy
6:00pm	Dinner

#### Friday, March 5

8:30am	Continental Breakfast will be served before first session
9:00am	Treatment of Victims of Rape, Ron Hamel, Ph.D. and Michael Panicola, Ph.D.
10:30am	Doing Clinical and Ethical Consultations, Mark Kuczewski, Ph.D. and Kayhan Parsi, J.D., Ph.D.
12 noon	Luncheon Panel Discussion with Faculty

Kevin O'Rourke, O.P., J.C.D., S.T.M.  
Conference Director  
Neiswanger Institute for Bioethics  
and Health Policy  
Loyola University Chicago

### Faculty

Sr. Jean deBlois, C.S.J., Ph.D.  
Aquinas Institute of Theology  
St. Louis

James DuBois Ph.D., D.Sc.  
Center for Health Care Ethics  
St. Louis University

Kevin FitzGerald, S.J., Ph.D.  
Center for Clinical Bioethics  
Georgetown University  
Washington, DC

Ron Hamel, Ph.D.  
Catholic Health Association

Mark Kuczewski, Ph.D.  
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Michael Panicola, Ph.D.  
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Myles Sheehan, S.J., M.D.  
Department of Medicine  
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## FACULTY PROFILE

### Kayhan Pake Parsi, J.D., M.D.



Kayhan Pake Parsi, J.D.,  
Ph.D.

Kayhan P. Parsi is an Assistant Professor of Bioethics & Health Policy at the Neiswanger Institute for Bioethics and Health Policy of the Loyola University of Chicago Stritch School of Medicine, having joined the faculty in January, 2002. He is the Graduate Program Director of the online master's program in bioethics. In the graduate program, he teaches courses on "Biomedical Ethics and the Law" and "Justice and Health Care" and oversees all the students' needs for administrative support and direction. He is the assistant course director for a course on ethics and biomedical sciences, and sits on the ethics committee and the Loyola University Medical Center's Institutional Review Board. He also holds an adjunct appointment in the Loyola University Chicago School of Law.

Dr. Parsi is an innovative bioethics educator and known for his ability to utilize a variety of venues and modalities to serve the needs of professionals seeking bioethics training. This makes him an ideal director the Neiswanger Institute's online M.A. program. From 1997 to 2001, he worked at the Institute for Ethics at the American Medical Association. As Director of Academic Affairs, Dr. Parsi supervised the A.M.A. Institute's Fellowship and Externship Programs, as well as the seminar and lecture series. He was a senior editor for the Virtual Mentor, an online forum for the exploration of ethical and professional issues geared toward medical students. He was involved in the development of the Code of Medical Ethics Online Curriculum (CMEOC), an online course based on the A.M.A.'s Code of Medical Ethics and the Oath Project, an effort to collect, post and analyze medical school oaths.

Dr. Parsi holds a B.A. from Rice University, a J.D. from the University of Houston Law Center, and a Ph.D. in medical humanities from the University of Texas Medical Branch at Galveston. He has worked as an associate for a medical



Dr. Parsi is flanked by a number of M.A. students (left to right) Stephen Dick, M.D., Katie Artnak, Ph.D., Luke Brewster, M.D., Parsi, Patrick McCruden, M.T.S., Sr Kathleen Cain, J.D., Steven Squires, M.Ed, Ann Lau Schwabe, R.N.

malpractice law firm, a research assistant in the Program on Legal and Ethical Issues in Correctional Health at UTMB-Galveston, and as a consultant-in-residence for the Division of Bioethics, Council of Europe in Strasbourg, France.

Dr. Parsi has published in a variety of areas and has interests in medical ethics education, professionalism and professional ethics, biotechnology, and the history of medicine and bioethics. He contributed a major revision of the Appendix to the recently released third edition of the Encyclopedia of Bioethics and is the co-editor (with Myles Sheehan, S.J., M.D.) of the forthcoming book, *Healing as Vocation: A Primer on Medical Professionalism* from Rowman & Littlefield.

# Neiswanger Institute to participate in the Strategies in Teaching and Evaluating Professionalism (STEP) Partnership of the American Medical Association

Everyone seems to be interested in professionalism these days. This interest is prompted by the new competencies of the Accreditation Council on Graduate Medical Education but is probably reflective of the deeper crisis of meaning in medicine. That is, as physicians find themselves squeezed by increasing fiscal, legal, and regulatory pressures, they often ask what it means to be a doctor. Physicians are consistently looking to renew their commitment to their calling and to revitalize themselves and their profession.

The Stritch School of Medicine is a recognized leader among medical schools in character education. Drawing upon the values and resources of its Jesuit and Catholic heritage, SSOM has long embodied an ethos that stresses the human dimension of medicine and calls the medical profession to lead in serving those most in need.

SSOM has been selected as one of ten medical schools who will partner with the American Medical Association to develop materials and strategies for enhancing the fostering of professionalism among medical students. As is well known, SSOM has piloted or designed several recent initiatives in professionalism. The STEP partnership will enable SSOM to refine these projects and make them cornerstones of the medical school curriculum. In particular,

- Σ The Business, Professionalism, & Justice curriculum of the Stritch School of Medicine will be enriched; resources such as the A.M.A. Code of Ethics will be integrated in discussions of matters such as conflicts of interests.
- Σ The Innovations in Leadership program will be enriched. This unique program provides training in communication skills, team building, and conflict resolution to teams comprised of faculty physicians, residents, and medical students and asks them to apply their skills in the devising of an educational project. This program will be expanded to include nurses and develop these skills across the disciplines.
- Σ The new Honors Program in Bioethics and Professionalism will debut to medical students in 2003-2004. It is a three-year portfolio driven program that seeks to help medical students understand the norms of the relationships they will encounter as physicians. The STEP program will assist with development of faculty mentors for this program.

Mark Kuczewski, Ph.D., Kayhan Parsi, J.D., Ph.D., and Eva Bading, M.D., chair of the Department of Family Medicine, are the Principal Investigators for this educational project. They will work with representatives of the A.M.A. and the other ten medical schools not only to refine the SSOM curriculum, but to help set future directions for fostering professionalism in medical education.

## Publications

Erin A. Egan (2004) "The Role of Ethics and Ethics Services in Patient Safety," in B.J. Youngberg and M.J. Hatlie (eds.) *The Patient Safety Handbook*, Sudbury, MA: Jones and Bartlett Publishers, pp. 487-499.

Erin A. Egan (2003) "Organizational Ethics in Residency Training: Moral Conflict With Supervising Physicians," *Cambridge Quarterly of Healthcare Ethics*, 12: 119-123.

Erin A. Egan (2002) "Ethics Training in Graduate Medical Education," *American Journal of Bioethics*, 2(4): 26.

Elisa J. Gordon (2003) "Trials and Tribulations of Navigating Institutional Review Boards and other Human Subjects Provisions," *Anthropological Quarterly*, 2003;76(2):299-320.

Elisa J. Gordon, Christopher K Daugherty, (2003) "Hitting You Over the Head: Oncologists' Disclosure of Prognosis to Advanced Cancer Patients," *Bioethics*, 17(2):142-168.

**Abstract:** The disclosure of prognosis to terminally ill patients has emerged as a recent concern given greater demands for patient involvement in medical decision making in the United States. To understand oncologists' attitudes about disclosing prognostic information to cancer patients with advanced disease, we interviewed fourteen oncologists and conducted one focus group of medical fellows. Although oncologists reported to disclose prognosis in terms of cancer not being curable, they tend to avoid using percentages to convey prognosis. Oncologists' reported reluctance to disclose prognosis was conveyed through the use of metaphors depicting the perceived violent impact of such information on patients. Oncologists' reluctance to disclose prognosis and preserve patient hope are

held in check by their need to ensure that patients' have "realistic expectations" about therapy. We discuss these data in light of the cultural, ethical, and legal dimensions of prognosis disclosure, patient hope and the doctor-patient relationship, and recommend ways to enhance the communication process.

Elisa J. Gordon (2003) "The ASBH Membership Survey: Preliminary Findings," *ASBH Exchange* 2003.

Elisa J. Gordon, Kayhan P Parsi (2002) "It's Alive!: Giving Birth to Research Ethics Education," *American Journal of Bioethics*, 2(4):65-66.

Mark G. Kuczewski (2003) "Communitarianism," in Stephen G. Post (ed.) *Encyclopedia of Bioethics*, 3rd edition, New York: Macmillan Reference USA.

William Barron, Mark G. Kuczewski (2003) Unanticipated Harm to Patients: Deciding When to Disclose Events, *Joint Commission Journal on Quality and Safety* 29(10): 551-555.

Mark G. Kuczewski, Eva Bading, Mary Langbein, Beverly Henry (2003) "Fostering Professionalism: The Loyola Model," *Cambridge Quarterly of Healthcare Ethics*, 12(2):161-166.

Mark G. Kuczewski, Kayhan P. Parsi (2002) "The Virtual Graduate Program in Bioethics: The Mission, the Students, and the Hazards," *American Journal of Bioethics*, 2(4): 13-17.

**Abstract:** The authors consider the role of an online graduate program in bioethics in light of recent data on graduate programs gathered by the American Society for Bioethics and Humanities. The authors argue that the online environment is the ideal medium to serve the needs of health-care professionals in search of graduate bioethics education. In particular, the web provides a way for such professionals to become a part of the national and international bioethics community. Thus, online bioethics education provides the interpersonal support and the lifelong learning opportunities that such professionals seek.

Mark G. Kuczewski (2002) "The Gift of Life and Starfish on the Beach: The Ethics of Organ Procurement," *American Journal of Bioethics*, 2(3): 53-56.

**Abstract:** The author considers the assumptions that form the basis for proposals to increase the supply of organs such as increased use of live donors and monetary compensation for organs. Most of these proposals assume that the number of organs needed is finite. Once this unsupported assumption is discarded, recourse to such dramatic ways of increasing the supply of transplantable organs is less justifiable.

Mark G. Kuczewski, Patricia G. Marshall (2002) "The Decision Dynamics of Clinical Research: The Context and Process of Informed Consent," *Medical Care*, 40(9), Special Supplement: v-45-54.

**Abstract:** This article explores contextual features of the informed consent process in research such as the role of support groups and primary care physicians in the recruitment of subjects to clinical trials. These demographic and cultural factors that might affect the process are highlighted. These contextual, demographic, and cultural features of the consent process are surveyed in an effort to outline what is unknown about their effect on the process and form the basis of recommendations for future directions in research.

Kevin O'Rourke (2002) "Catholic Health Care and Sterilization," *Health Progress*, November-December: 43-49

Kevin O'Rourke (2002) "Ms. B, and the Vatican," *The National Catholic Bioethics Quarterly*, 2(4): 595-600.

**Abstract:** The Catholic Church has long allowed the withdrawal of life support if it imposes an excessive burden upon the patient or the family. Thus when a court in Britain recently allowed a woman to have a respirator removed because she thought it imposed an excessive burden in that it would keep her alive in a paralyzed condition, the Bishops Conference of Wales and England agreed with the court. But two Vatican theologians called it euthanasia, and implied that life support can be removed only if death is "imminent and inevitable." Does this signify a change in Vatican teaching in regard to the removal of life support?

Kevin O'Rourke (2004) "The Ethical and Religious Directives; History and Content," *Proceedings of the CLSA Assembly 2003*, Washington, D.C.: Canon Law Society of American.

Kayhan Parsi (2003) Revision to: "Appendix," in *Encyclopedia of Bioethics*, 3rd Edition. Stephen S. Post, (ed.). New York: MacMillan Reference USA.



## The Neiswanger Institute

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Kenneth Micetich, M.D.  
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Kevin O'Rourke, O.P., J.C.D., S.T.M.  
Kayhan Parsi, J.D., Ph.D.

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David Ozar, Ph.D.  
Jennifer Parks, Ph.D.  
Mark Sheldon, Ph.D.  
Lawrence Singer, J.D., M.A.  
Mark Waymack, Ph.D.

## Advisory Board of the Neiswanger Institute for Bioethics and Health Policy

Chair: Myles Sheehan, S.J., M.D.,  
Senior Associate Dean, Stritch School of Medicine

## Board Members

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The website for the Neiswanger Institute for Bioethics and Health Policy is <http://bioethics.lumc.edu>

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## Do you have ideas for the next bioethics@lumc?

Bioethics@lumc is taking submissions for the Summer 2004 newsletter. Please send submission ideas to Robert Johnson, Neiswanger Institute for Bioethics and Health Policy, Building 120, Room 280, Loyola University Medical Center, 2160 S. First Avenue, Maywood, IL 60153, or e-mail [bjohns5@lumc.edu](mailto:bjohns5@lumc.edu).

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