



**August
2022
News**

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MINI-SERIES ON MENTAL HEALTH: Following its first lecture on September 13—[Narrative in Jewish Medical Ethics](#) by Alan Jotkowitz (Ben-Gurion University), the [Healthcare and Religion Lecture Series](#) will focus this fall on the intersection of religion and mental health, in conjunction with the Provost's Year of Emotional Well-being.

- [From Monasteries to Hospitals: An Institutional History of Care for the Insane in East Asia](#), by James Robson (Harvard), October 4
- [The Influence of Early Muslim Physicians and Classical Islamic Scholars on the Development of Modern Psychiatry](#), by Rania Awaad (Stanford), November 1
- [Spiritual Madness: Race, Psychiatry, and African American Religions](#), by Judith Weisenfeld (Princeton), December 6

These 8:00 am lectures are available for continuing medical education credit and are co-sponsored by the Palliative and Supportive Institute, Department of Religious Studies, Program in Jewish Studies, and Pittsburgh Theological Seminary.

OTHER CENTER PROGRAMMING ON THE THEME OF EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING: Reinekke Lengelle, author of *Writing the Self in Bereavement: A Story of Love, Spousal Loss, and Resilience*, will present Palliative Care Grand Rounds on November 16 @ 8:00 am: [On Writing the Self in Bereavement: A Writing Method and Experience of Loss](#) via Teams. She will also present [On Writing and Grief](#) @ 6:00 pm on November 9 via Zoom.

With support from the Center, the [C. F. Reynolds History of Medicine Lecture Series](#) will feature Kylie Smith (Emory) presenting *Jim Crow in the Asylum: Psychiatry and Civil Rights in the American South* on November 1 @ 6:00 pm via Zoom.

Reflecting on the Center's virtual exhibition, [Experience, Integration, Expression: The Work of Norman Klenicki](#), anthropologist Gabby Yearwood will be in conversation with curator **Bridget Keown** at noon on November 2 to discuss [Sport, \(Dis\)Embodiment, and Mental Health](#).

To celebrate approval of the new undergraduate Certificate in Health Humanities, the [Health Humanities \(HH\) Lecture Series](#) opens by hosting **Brad Lewis**, who inaugurated the series in 2016. Now a faculty member at NYU's Gallatin School of Individualized Study, Brad was previously a faculty member in the Center and its MA Program in Bioethics. While at Pitt, he taught *Philosophy of Medicine* and also originated the Area of Concentration in Medical Humanities and Ethics for medical students. On September 19 at 5:00 pm, he will present [Caring for Ophelia: Literature, Mad Studies, and Narrative Psychiatry](#). Center affiliated faculty member **Jason Rosenstock** will be his respondent.

Kaliane Ung, who teaches the health humanities course *Ailing Bodies*, organized this fall's H|H series. Lectures begin at 5:00 pm. Other H|H lectures include:

- *Contingent Matter: Bodies, Medicine, and Care in the Early Modern Francophone World*, by Tracy Rutler (Penn State), October 12 (in-person at the Barco Law Building)
- *The History and Ethics of Organ Donation: Questions Then, Questions Now*, by former Center faculty member **Michael DeVita** (Columbia), October 25 (in-person at the Barco Law Building)
- [*Autism, Culture, and the Influence of the West*](#), by Jennifer Sarrett, November 7
- [*A Manifesto for Care and Liberation*](#), by Sophie Lewis (Brooklyn Institute for Social Research), December 1

TWO NEW SERIES: The Center was asked to collaborate to develop the new School of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences Bioethics & Health Humanities Series. Its inaugural lecture, [*Words Matter: The Ethics of Word Choice in Healthcare*](#), will be given by **Valerie Satkoske** September 29 @ 4:00. It will be followed by a Health Informatics Ethics Grand Rounds on October 7 @ noon, and Dr. Yearwood's November 2 noontime discussion.

The School of Social Work is also working with the Center to develop a series focused on ethics, health, and social work. The theme this fall will be on ethical issues in reproductive health and transgender health services. Full information about these new lecture series—and about all Center programming—will be posted soon on the Center's web [calendar](#).

COLLABORATIONS ACROSS THE CITY: The Center is collaborating with City of Asylum this year on a series of readings and lectures curated and hosted by [Theresa Brown](#). A nurse and popular *New York Times* columnist, Theresa is the author of *The Shift: One Nurse, Twelve Hours, Four Patients' Lives*; *Critical Care: A New Nurse Faces Death, Life, and Everything in Between*; and most recently, *Healing: When a Nurse Becomes a Patient*.

With Carlow University's Atkins Center for Ethics, the Center is co-sponsoring *The Flint Water Crisis and Public Health: A Conversation with Dr. Mona Hanna-Attisha*. Pitt Public Health Dean Maureen Lichtveld will be in conversation with Dr. Hanna-Attisha, author of [*What the Eyes Don't See*](#), in-person at Carlow and online (coordinates to be announced) beginning at 5:30 pm.

CENTER COLLOQUIA: The Center's Health Humanities and Ethics Fellow **Evangelian Collings** will present the Center's first colloquium—[*On Animals, Persons, and the Pregnancy Problem: Implications for Discussion of Abortion*](#)—on September 23 @ 10:00 am. Volunteers and recommendations are requested for subsequent colloquia throughout the fall and spring terms. Contact bioethics@pitt.edu with ideas or to volunteer.

CENTER SPRING CONFERENCE PLANNING: This spring, the Center's annual Interprofessional Healthcare Ethics Conference—*Ethics, Healthcare, and the Quest for Emotional Well-being*—will include a resources page. Send recommendations of resources

about—or conducive to fostering—emotional well-being to bioethics@pitt.edu. Developed with both academic and general audiences in mind, the collection will include both empirical and scholarly research; fiction and non-fiction; conceptualizations of emotional well-being from the perspective of various disciplines and eras; and attention to challenges for achieving emotional well-being at personal and social levels. The conference program committee also welcomes suggestions for conference content and speakers. Committee members are Center faculty members Jack Rozel, Valerie Satkoske, and Jamie Zelazny, as well as Philip Empey and Rick Morycz. The conference date will be announced as soon as space is secured.

CENTER FACULTY:

Brock Bahler was interviewed on The Confluence on August 15, 2022, about the rise of White Christian Nationalism (minutes 17:15 - 22:30).

Greer Donley was named a John E. Murray Faculty Scholar. Her paper [Rethinking Strategy after Roe](#) (co-authored with David Cohen & Rachel Rebouché) was accepted for publication by *Stanford Law Review* online. She also published several op-eds:

- [Why Do We Talk About Miscarriage Differently From Abortion?](#), *New York Times*, August 2, 2022 (with Jill Weiber Lens)
- [Can Kansas Cling to Abortion Rights?](#), *Rolling Stone*, August 1, 2022 (with David Cohen and Rachel Rebouché)
- [The Harshest Abortion Restrictions Are Yet to Come](#), *The Atlantic*, July 11, 2022 (with David Cohen and Rachel Rebouché)
- [Some Things Biden Could Actually Do About Abortion \(Besides Just Tell You to Vote\)](#), *Slate*, July 6, 2022 (with David Cohen and Rachel Rebouché)
- [It's Time to Put Abortions on Federal Land](#), *Boston Globe*, July 6, 2022 (with David Cohen and Rachel Rebouché)
- [Reproductive Healthcare is at Risk Post-Roe](#), *Time*, June 24, 2022 (with Jill Wieber Lens)
- [Abortion Pills Will Change a Post-Roe World](#), *New York Times*, June 23, 2022 (with David Cohen and Rachel Rebouché)

Paula Leslie published:

- Leslie, P., & Lisiecka, D. Ethical Considerations in the Care of People with Eating, Drinking and Swallowing Difficulties. *Current Opinion in Otolaryngology & Head and Neck Surgery*, 2022, 30(3), 182–187. <https://doi.org/10.1097/MOO.0000000000000803>
- Leslie P. “A Framework for Ethical Communication and Practice, Essay on Ethics I.” *Fundamentals of AAC [Augmentative and Alternative Communication]: A Case-Based Approach to Enhancing Communication*. San Diego, USA, 2022.
- Leslie P. “Critical Health Situations, Informed Consent, and the Importance of Appropriate AAC, Essay on Ethics II.” *Fundamentals of AAC: A Case-Based Approach to Enhancing Communication*. San Diego, USA, 2022.

She also presented “Once Upon a Time, An SLT & A Pharmacist Saved the World” as the keynote speaker for the University of East Anglia Speech & Language Therapy and Pharmacy Interprofessional Learning Day.

Lisa Parker was selected by the University Senate for a five-year term on the Institutional Conflict of Interest Committee. This September, she will begin her three-year term on the Faculty Assembly, representing the School of Public Health.

With colleagues, including affiliated faculty member **Tina Hershey**, Lisa published:

- Alreja A, Ward MJ, Ma Q, Russ BE, Bickel A, Van Wouwe NC, González-Martínez JA, Neimat JS, Abel TJ, Bagić A, Parker LS, Richardson RM, Schroeder CE, Morency L, Ghuman AS, A New Paradigm for Investigating Real-World Social Behavior and its Neural Underpinnings, *Behavior Research Methods*, 25 July 2022, doi: <https://doi.org/10.3758/s13428-022-01882-9>
- Hulseley E, Hershey T, Parker LS, Kuza C, Fedro-Byrom S, Gellad W. Using Prediction Algorithms to Identify Individuals at Risk of a Fatal Overdose: A Promising Opportunity that Requires a Comprehensive Legal Framework, *Health Affairs Forefront*, accepted August 5, 2022.

The second commentary stems from her work on the Richard K. Mellon Foundation funded project on Opioid Overdose Risk Prediction. Further, an abstract, written with colleagues including affiliated faculty member **Margaret Rosenzweig**, was accepted:

Gunarathne P, Parker LS, Rosenzweig M, Kim H, Wu S. Patient perspectives on medical AI – A mini-review and what’s next for research. Workshop on Applications of Medical AI, 25th International Conference on Medical Image Computing and Computer Assisted Intervention 2022.

In June, Lisa’s curated collection, [Ethical Challenges in Obtaining Informed Consent for Genetic/Genomic Research](#), was published on the ELSI Hub site.

Valerie Satkoske, Vice President of Mission Effectiveness, Spiritual Care, and Ethics at UPMC Mercy and the Vice President of Ethics for UPMC and UPMC Presbyterian Shadyside, is expanding her role to assume leadership responsibility over Volunteer Services across the Health Services Division of UPMC.

With coauthors David Kappel, Joann Migyanka, and Andrew Nelson, in November, Valerie will be presenting *Autism-informed Strategies to Improve Medical Interactions and Advanced Care Planning* at [OCALICON 2022](#), reputed to be “the premier autism and disabilities conference” where “people from around the world come together to learn, network, and share research, best practices, and resources to support the life-long needs of individuals with disabilities, including autism spectrum disorder and sensory and low-incidence disabilities.”

MA PROGRAM STUDENTS AND ALUMNI:

Two MA Program students, both physicians, are graduating this August. **Jennifer Braverman** is Assistant Professor in the Department of Obstetrics/Gynecology, Division of Maternal Fetal Medicine at the University of Colorado. While in Pittsburgh, she completed a Fellowship in Maternal Fetal Medicine at Magee-Womens Hospital, as well as her MA in Bioethics. Her thesis, *Ethical Decision Making Regarding Termination in Gestational Carrier Pregnancies*, considered how conflicts between a gestational surrogate and prospective parents regarding pregnancy termination should be resolved. Her thesis was co-directed by **Lisa Parker** and **Mark Wicclair**, with **Valerie Blake** as her third committee member. Jennifer’s BA from Rice University was in sociology. She then earned her MD, completing the Ethics Track, at Baylor College of Medicine.

Michael Certo is continuing in Pittsburgh as a fellow in the Hospice and Palliative Medicine Fellowship. In addition to completing his MA in Bioethics, he completed a Pediatric Critical Care Medicine Fellowship at UPMC Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh, where he also completed his residency in pediatrics. Michael's thesis, *Using Cognitive Capacity, Experiential Capacity, and Domains of Suffering to Inform Assessment of Suffering in Children*, developed an account of suffering to provide a clear and justifiable framework for determining whether and how pediatric patients are suffering, with the goals of helping clinicians identify means to ameliorate suffering and reducing the risk that inaccurate attributions of suffering are used to defend premature or unjustified decisions regarding treatment. **Mark Wicclair** was the director of this project; **Lisa Parker** and **Ethan Silverman** served on the committee. In addition to his MD from Columbia University Vagelos College of Physicians and Surgeons, Michael earned a Master's in Music from the Manhattan School of Music, and a Bachelor of Fine Arts from Carnegie Mellon University.

The Bioethics Program is welcoming two new students this fall. **Ariel Leath** graduated with a BS in Communications from Appalachian State University and a MA in Communications, Culture and Technology from Georgetown University. Within the Bioethics Program, she plans to examine end-of-life policies and ethical considerations concerning emerging technologies.

Kyra Malvey graduated from Montclair State University with a BA in medical humanities and a minor in psychology. Her senior thesis on ethical considerations in women's pain management was deemed the "Best Capstone Project" of the Spring 2022 graduating class. In the Bioethics Program, Kyra plans to continue study of that topic, as well as the right to die and the autonomy of pediatric patients.

These new students join continuing Bioethics Program students who are completing their course work: **Janetta Brundage**, who is working on ethics of ovarian transplantation, and **Gabriella Nutter**, whose research focuses on disorders of consciousness and neuroethics.