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BRAINSTORM

Brainstorm Newsletter

An Interdisciplinary and Bilingual Newsletter about Advances in Health Ethics Theory and Practice -
December 2019

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Editorial Team

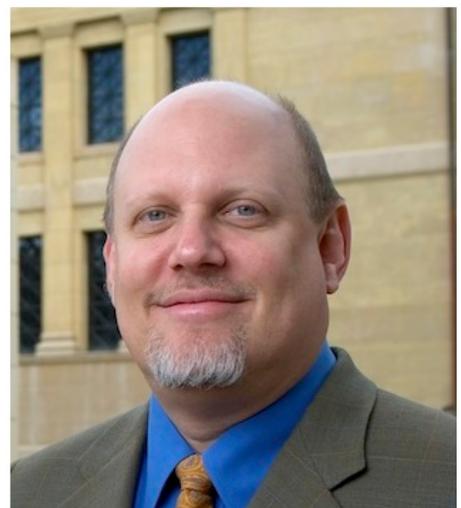
- Ariane Quintal
- Eric Racine



Profile of the Month

David Magnus, Ph.D.

David Magnus, Ph.D. (Philosophy, Stanford) is Thomas A. Raffin Professor of Medicine and Biomedical Ethics and Professor of Pediatrics, Medicine, and By Courtesy of Bioengineering at Stanford University. He is Director of the Stanford Center for Biomedical Ethics and member of the Ethics Committee for the Stanford Hospital. He is currently the Vice-Chair of the IRB for the NIH Precision Medicine Initiative ("All of Us"). He is the former President of the Association of Bioethics Program Directors, and is the Editor-in-Chief of the American Journal of Bioethics. He is editor of a collection of essays entitled "Who Owns Life?" (2002) and his publications have appeared in The New England Journal of Medicine, Science, and Nature Biotechnology. He publishes articles on a variety of topics in bioethics, including research ethics, genetics, stem cell research, organ



transplantation, end of life, patient communication, and the application of machine learning and artificial intelligence to health care.

Statement on health ethics, science, and philosophy

I started out my academic career obtaining a Ph.D. in Philosophy from Stanford University. I was interested in ethics, philosophy of language, in addition to history and philosophy of biology. While my first publication while a grad student was in ethics, my dissertation and all of my early research was in history and philosophy of biology. Two things drove me from that beginning to move towards bioethics. First, one of my advisors, Jane Maienschein, always asked after every talk that I or anyone gave, “so what?” This is a question that does not get asked often enough in academia. This left me with a mindset to make sure my work had real world significance. As I started working on concepts of genetic disease and seeing ways that my work could make a difference I began to move towards bioethics. I was blessed by the opportunity to move from a faculty position in a philosophy department to the Center for Bioethics at Penn with Art Caplan, a mentor and friend who brought together a host of brilliant young scholars from different disciplines. This was where I first understood how conceptual work, normative ethics, and social science could be combined through collaborative research. At the same time, my grounding in history and philosophy of biology trained me to recognize that good scholarship requires grounding in knowledge of the areas you are working on. Too many philosophers doing ethics don’t really know or understand the medical issues or the technologies they are describing. They are writing for other philosophers. Over the past 22 years I have spent thousands of hours in hospitals. My research is firmly grounded in the experience I have as a clinical ethicist and in the research that I see going on around me. My work is largely addressed to scientists and clinicians, which is the best way for bioethics to have a good answer to Jane’s question.

Selected publications

Martinez-Martin N, Magnus D. Privacy and ethical challenges in next-generation sequencing. *Expert Rev Precis Med Drug Dev.* 2019 Apr; 4(2):95-104.

Batten JN, Kruse KE, Kraft SA, Fishbeyn B, Magnus DC. What does the word "Treatable" mean? Implications for communication and decision-making in critical illness. *Crit Care Med.* 2019 Mar;47(3):369-376.

Char, DS, Shah, NH, Magnus D. Implementing machine learning in health care – Addressing ethical challenges. *N Engl J Med.* 2018 Mar 15; 378(11):981-983.

Website

<https://profiles.stanford.edu/david-magnus>

Events and Announcements

[The Montreal Health Ethics Conference Series](#)

This bilingual monthly conference/webinar series aims to bring people together to think about and discuss issues in health ethics. Our aim is to promote health ethics through conferences that foster dialogue between groups of participants with different perspectives (e.g., academics, clinicians, patients,

community members). These seminars appeal to audiences both within and outside of academia and healthcare settings with the goal of increasing mutual awareness about health ethics and promote interdisciplinary and community reflections on various cross-cutting health ethics topics.

The theme of our series for the year 2019-2020 is: ***The role of dialogue in care and in the healthcare system***. How can our health system and health professionals be more attentive to patients? Should they be and why? Which changes are needed in healthcare and in the health system? What are the challenges of dialogue and deliberation for patients or between team members, or even within a single institution or network of care? Our guests will address these questions (amongst others) while sharing their vision regarding the issues surrounding ethical deliberation in health and taking particular interest in decision-making processes, relationships between patients and health professionals, caring for marginalized populations, and more.

Our last conference featured **Dr. Hubert Doucet**, who is notably a visiting Professor of Bioethics at the Institut d'études religieuses de l'Université de Montréal. We would like to thank Dr. Doucet for his enlightening and engaging presentation on the role of dialogue in shaping the field of bioethics from its inception to today.

If you have missed the conference, click [here](#) to view it on our YouTube channel.



Here is the schedule of our upcoming conferences in 2020:

13 FÉVRIER 2020 – FEBRUARY 13, 2020

CAROLINE TAIT

Ethical considerations of inadequate access to health services for Canadian Indigenous populations. How can dialogue play a determining role?

26 MARS 2020 – MARCH 26, 2020

JOCELYNE SAINT-ARNAUD

Le dialogue, l'advocacy et la détresse morale des soignants

9 AVRIL 2020 – APRIL 9, 2020

JEAN ROCHON

MICHEL CLAIR

Panel de discussion où deux anciens ministres québécois s'entreprendront sur les valeurs au cœur de notre système de santé et sur l'importance du dialogue public pour l'avenir de notre système de santé au Québec.

1ER JUIN 2020 – JUNE 1ST, 2020*

ALBERT CHRISTIAAN MOLEWIJK

Reflections on ethical deliberation and the dialogical approach at the heart of healthcare.

*Exceptionnellement à 11 h 30 / Exceptionally at 11:30 A.M.

Conferences will also be livestreamed on our YouTube Page: [Pragmatic Health Ethics](#).

[Call for Registration: Health Ethics Seminar – Why Healthcare Professionals Have a Human Right to Make a Conscientious Objection](#)

Who: Christina Lamb, RN, PhD, Assistant Professor, Faculty of Nursing, University of Alberta

When: Friday, December 13th, 2019

Where: Dvorkin Centre (2G2.07 WMC), John Dossetor Health Ethics Centre
University of Alberta, Edmonton (AB) T6G 2T4

Healthcare professionals work in challenging ethical environments where the need to discuss and address issues of conscience is becoming increasingly challenging. At times, healthcare professionals need to voice their issues of conscience by way of making a conscientious objection. However, little is known about conscience and conscientious objection in the context of healthcare practice and the particular relevance conscience holds for healthcare contexts. This presentation will focus on discussing the current ethical context of health care, dominant views of healthcare that promote and devalue conscience and share how conscience can, in fact, support ethical health care provision. In light of recent controversy over Freedom of Conscience protection for healthcare professionals, this presentation will specifically explore how the right to freedom of conscience holds ethical significance for Canadian healthcare professionals. For more information about this seminar, please call 780-492-6676 or [visit our website](#). For telehealth registration, click [here](#).

[Appel de candidatures: Bourse de recherche postdoctorale ou d'études supérieures](#)

Unité de recherche en éthique pragmatique de la santé, IRCM, Montréal, QC, Canada

L'Unité de recherche en éthique pragmatique de la santé est le seul groupe de recherche au monde qui tente explicitement de puiser dans le pragmatisme philosophique pour développer les aspects théoriques, méthodologiques et pratiques d'une éthique de la santé. L'Unité est présentement à la recherche d'un(e) stagiaire postdoctoral(e) ou d'étudiants aux cycles supérieurs souhaitant contribuer au développement d'une éthique pragmatique. L'étudiant ou les étudiants prendront part au développement de nouvelles théories et méthodologies au cœur de notre programme de recherche ou travaillera sur l'un des nombreux projets plus appliqués mobilisant des approches pragmatiques. Ce poste est d'une durée de 12 mois avec possibilité de renouvellement. Les candidats ou candidates ayant une expertise autre que celle de la bioéthique, mais tout de même connexe (par ex. : sciences de l'implémentation, recherche-action, psychologie, travail social, philosophie) sont aussi invités à soumettre leur candidature. Pour plus d'informations, cliquez [ici](#).

Date limite: Le poste demeure ouvert jusqu'à ce qu'il soit comblé.

Date de début du poste: Dès janvier 2020.

[Appel de candidatures: Bourse de recherche postdoctorale ou d'études supérieures](#)

Unité de recherche en éthique pragmatique de la santé, IRCM, Montréal, QC, Canada

L'Unité de recherche en éthique pragmatique de la santé souhaite recruter un stagiaire postdoctoral ou un étudiant aux cycles supérieurs souhaitant collaborer au projet BETTER (BEhaviors, Therapies, TEchnologies, and hypoglycemic Risks), subventionné par les Instituts de recherche en santé du Canada et

la Fondation FRDJ. L'étudiant sélectionné rejoindra une équipe interdisciplinaire pour développer un programme de recherche orienté vers les dimensions éthiques de la recherche sur le diabète de type 1, notamment sur l'hypoglycémie, les nouvelles thérapies et technologies et les principales implications psychosociales. Ce stage est d'une durée de douze mois avec une possibilité de renouvellement. Les candidats ayant une expertise autre que celle de la bioéthique (ex. : sciences de l'implémentation ou recherche-action) sont invités à soumettre leur candidature. Pour plus d'informations, cliquez [ici](#).

Date limite: Le poste demeure ouvert jusqu'à ce qu'il soit comblé.

Date de début du poste: Dès janvier 2020.

[Call for Applications: Postdoctoral Fellow in Clinical Ethics](#)

Stanford Center for Biomedical Ethics, Stanford, CA, United States

The Clinical Ethics Fellowship in the Center of Biomedical Ethics is a two-year, full-time program designed to prepare graduates to become leaders in Bioethics in health care settings, academic institutions, and professional or government agencies. Established in 2015, this non-ACGME fellowship is committed to addressing ethical concerns through clinical ethics consultation, policy development, education and research. Applicants should have an advanced degree in an academic or professional discipline with preference given to candidates with terminal degrees in bioethics, philosophy, medicine, behavioral sciences, law, social sciences nursing, social work, religious studies, and other fields related to the practice of clinical and academic bioethics. Exceptional candidates with a master's degree will be considered. Candidates are also expected to possess strong interpersonal skills, the ability to work independently and collaboratively, excellent oral and written communication skills, conflict resolution, organizational skills, as well as presentation and teaching skills. Applicants should send a copy of their CV, a cover letter, and a list of three references in PDF format to Gabriella Rivera at grivera8@stanford.edu. Applications will be evaluated by the program's director, assistant director, and former fellow. Due to Stanford Graduate Medical Education (GME) regulations, applications from prospective international fellows cannot be accepted or reviewed.

Deadline: Rolling review of applications until the beginning of January 2020

Start date: July 2020

[Call for Applications: Postdoctoral Researcher](#)

University of Connecticut (with some flexibility for off-site telecommuting) Mansfield, CT, United States

The University of Connecticut is recruiting a full-time Postdoctoral Researcher for a 24-month position as part of an innovative NSF-funded project titled "The Ethics of Studying Indigenous North American Ancient DNA: Moving from Theories to Practices." This project will analyze the current ethical landscape of ancient DNA research with Indigenous North American ancestors, collaboratively develop a set of principles to guide good research practices, and produce resource kits for various stakeholders to enable more equitable and informed decision-making and knowledge sharing. The applicant should minimally have a PhD in Science, Technology, and Society (STS) studies, anthropology, bioethics, or a related discipline. The applicant should have one year of experience researching human behavior, society, or history, and the ability to travel as needed for the project. The postdoctoral researcher will be conducting online surveys and field-based ethnographic interviews of scientists and Indigenous community members, compiling case

studies of ancient DNA research projects, and contributing to reports, articles, conference presentations, the project website, and other research products. Applicants should send an email to Dr. Chip Colwell (chip.colwell@dmns.org) with Word or PDF attachments of (1) a cover letter outlining their interests and abilities; and (2) their C.V., including names and contact information of three possible references.

Deadline: Review of applications will begin on November 1, 2019 and continue until the position is filled.

Duration: November 2019 to September 2021.

[Call for Applications: Assistant Teaching Professor](#)

University of Missouri, Columbia, MO, United States

The Department of Philosophy at the University of Missouri, Columbia invites applications for a renewable, non-tenure-track Assistant Teaching Professor. The teaching load is six courses per academic year. A Ph.D. in Philosophy by time of appointment is required. Salary and initial contract period (up to 3 years) are dependent on candidate's experience and credentials. We are seeking a dynamic and dedicated teacher who is willing to work closely with undergraduates to promote the study of philosophy across the campus. The ideal candidate will have the ability to teach medical ethics. Prior teaching experience is required, with a preference for experience designing and teaching their own course. Ability and willingness to take promising steps to increase the number of majors is highly desirable. We welcome applications from candidates with an interest in developing diversity-intensive courses (as described [here](#)). To apply, submit a cover letter, CV, evidence of teaching effectiveness, teaching statement, and a diversity statement [here](#). Reference letters will be requested from candidates that reach the final stages.

Deadline: January 1, 2020, although the position will remain open until filled.

Start date: August 1, 2020, with eligibility for renewal and promotion, depending on need, funding, and performance.

[Call for Registration: The 2019 Kids Brain Health Network \(KBHN\) Annual Conference](#)

December 10–11, 2019

The Westin Hotel, Ottawa, ON, Canada

The 2019 KBHN Annual Conference has adopted the theme of “Building Partnerships that Impact Communities”. The goal of the conference is to celebrate the past 10 years of KBHN successes and to create a venue for listening to the perspectives of stakeholders across the full spectrum of the Network’s programs, from research discoveries to policy dialog. The conference will provide a venue for stakeholders, including parents and partner organizations, to identify and discuss strategies to meet the challenges facing children and families within communities and across the Nation. A combination of plenary talks, an interactive panel and round table discussions, and trainee presentations (both oral and poster), will showcase the breadth and depth of the Network’s research programs and knowledge mobilization activities. Click [here](#) to register for the conference.

[Call for Papers: Journal of Pediatric Ethics](#)

The Journal of Pediatric Ethics (JPE) from the Clinical Ethics Department at Children's Minnesota strives to fill a gap in the pediatric literature and aid with the caring of children through a peer reviewed journal dedicated to the ethical complexities specific to pediatric medicine. Our goal is to provide our readers with thoughtful and inspiring feature articles, highlight original research in the field of pediatric ethics, and promote good clinical practice through extensive case review.

Journal of Pediatric Ethics is now accepting manuscripts for the following issues:

Volume 1. No. 3 – Limitations and Advance Care Planning in Pediatrics

Volume 2. No. 1 – Ethical Issues in the Care of Intersex Children

Original work including original research papers (up to 5,000 words), commentaries, narratives and point/counterpoint companion pieces on controversial topics (2,500 words) will be considered in all areas of pediatric practice. Manuscripts written by patients and/or families and caregivers will be considered. Manuscripts must be submitted in Microsoft Word format or as Rich Text Format files. All submissions must follow the American Medical Association Manual of Style, 10th Edition. All original research should include IRB and other ethics review board approval. Please submit your manuscript (including abstract) to the Journal of Pediatric Ethics to ethics@childrensmn.org. For more information, contact Hamdi Sahal at Hamdi.Sahal@ChildrensMN.org.

Literature

Interdisciplinary Foundations of Health Ethics

[The fundamental role of storytelling and practical wisdom in facilitating the ethics education of junior doctors.](#)

Paton A, Kotzee B. *Health (London)*. 2019 Nov. [Epub ahead of print]

[Relational autonomy: What does it mean and how is it used in end-of-life care? A systematic review of argument-based ethics literature.](#)

Gómez-Vírseda C, de Maeseneer Y, Gastmans C. *BMC Med Ethics*. 2019 Oct;20(1):76.

[Use and meaning of "goals of care" in the healthcare literature: A systematic review and qualitative discourse analysis.](#)

Secunda K, Wirpsa MJ, Neely KJ, Szmuiłowicz E, Wood GJ, Panozzo E, McGrath J, Levenson A, Peterson J, Gordon EJ, Kruser JM. *J Gen Intern Med*. 2019 Oct. [Epub ahead of print]

[Data management in health-related research involving indigenous communities in the United States and Canada: A scoping review.](#)

Woodbury RB, Beans JA, Hiratsuka VY, Burke W. *Front Genet*. 2019 Oct;10:942. eCollection 2019.

[Health assessment and the capability approach.](#)

López Barrera R, Robertson-Preidler J, Bedregal García P. *Glob Bioeth*. 2019 Sep;30(1):19-27. eCollection 2019.

Methodologies and Practices in Health Ethics

[Potential unintended consequences of recent shared decision making policy initiatives.](#)

Blumenthal-Barby J, Opel DJ, Dickert NW, Kramer DB, Tucker Edmonds B, Ladin K, Peek ME, Peppercorn J, Tilburt J. *Health Aff (Millwood)*. 2019 Nov;38(11):1876-1881.

[Managing conflicts of interest in pharmacy and therapeutics committees: A proposal for multicentre formulary development.](#)

Friesen P, Caplan AL, Miller JE. *J Clin Pharm Ther*. 2019 Oct. [Epub ahead of print]

[Enriching our understanding of vulnerability through the experiences and perspectives of individuals living with mental illness.](#)

Lajoie C, Fortin J, Racine E. *Account Res*. 2019 Oct. [Epub ahead of print]

[Patients' views about patient engagement and representation in healthcare governance.](#)

DeCamp M, Dukhanin V, Hebert LC, Himmelrich S, Feeser S, Berkowitz SA. *J Healthc Manag*. 2019 Sep-Oct; 64(5):332-346.

[Factors and situations affecting the value of patient preference studies: semi-structured interviews in Europe and the US.](#)

Whichello C, van Overbeeke E, Janssens R, Schölin Bywall K, Russo S, Veldwijk J, Cleemput I, Juhaeri J, Levitan B, Kübler J, Smith M, Hermann R, Englbrecht M, Hueber AJ, Comanescu A, Harding S, Simoens S, Huys I, de Bekker-Grob EW. *Front Pharmacol*. 2019 Sep;10:1009. eCollection 2019.

News and Social Media

[Ethical research — the long and bumpy road from shirked to shared](#)

Franklin S. *Nature*. October 29, 2019.

[A clarion call for bioethics: Franklin's Nature criticism](#)

Klugman C. *The Blog of the American Journal of Bioethics*. November 1, 2019.

[Invisible patients: Caregivers need support too in Canada's health-care system.](#)

MacDonald F, Levasseur K, Driedger T. *CBC News*. November 2, 2019.

[The silent crisis of bioethics illiteracy](#)

Appel JM. *Scientific American*. November 5, 2019.

[En détresse à l'hôpital, puis laissés à eux-mêmes](#)

Duchaine G. *La Presse*. November 15, 2019.

[The female problem: How male bias in medical trials ruined women's health](#)

Jackson G. *The Guardian*. November 13, 2019.

Other resources

For more resources on pragmatic health ethics theory and practice, visit our website at <http://www.pragmatichealthethics.ca>.

