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IACB International Association of Catholic Bioethicists

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Join us for the 4th International Colloquium in Cologne, Germany



*Human Life with Cognitive Impairment:
Caring and Giving Hope in a World of Change*

Cologne, Germany
July 12-16, 2009

Website: www.iacbweb.org/cologne2009

IACB Director's Message

Most of our adult lives are spent in the zone between the familiar and the unfamiliar. The utterly alien threatens and is frightening to us; the routine seems restrictive and a mere drudgery. We shuttle between secure base and terra incognita, and the pattern that emerges over time is what we become aware of as our "self". The cognitive challenges experienced by a person affected by dementia can be likened, in a way, to being in a foreign land where all signs and routes to home progressively disappear from sight. People with dementia try, with increasing difficulty, to hang on to the past and often revert to the distant past.

In preparing for our International Colloquium in Cologne, let us not think of people with dementia as perplexing *objects* of our enquiry. The cognitive and spiritual challenges that they are facing are the very ones that all humans grapple with, namely, how to orientate and find a "hearth" for ourselves in a world of change.

For Augustine, God is not simply the unknown destination for which we are restless. God is "interior intimo meo" (*Confessions* 3.6.11)—more inward to me than my intimate self. Our being made "for" God and "in" His image and likeness is more basic than the self we constitute through accumulated experiences, memories and reflections because it *grounds* the possibility of, and is the momentum for, all our experiences and cognitive activities. The Gospel readings from *John* this Easter also remind us that God "makes his dwelling" within us (*John* 14:23). This is the self that persists, the intimate hearth in which we can abide, even as our memories recede and our cognitive powers diminish. As bioethicists, may we grow in awareness through prayer and reflection of this reality, and make it the source of all our efforts. *Bill Sullivan*

WEB BIBLIOGRAPHY ON ETHICS AND DEMENTIA

A bibliography is being assembled for the 4th IACB International Colloquium using **Refworks** at: www.refworks.com/refworks. Registrants for the Colloquium and IACB Associates may send an e-mail message to secretariat@iacbweb.org for passwords and instructions.

AUTHORS OF PAPERS: 4th IACB International Colloquium

Each newsletter leading up to the 4th IACB International Colloquium will introduce some authors of the background papers. The last newsletter highlighted 7 authors and is available at www.iacbweb.org/news0812.pdf.



Jane Adolphe is an Associate Professor at the Ave Maria School of Law in Michigan, U.S.A., and is doubly qualified in common and canon law. She serves as

President of the Center for Law and Justice International and has been a consultant to the Holy See on matters relating to international law. Dr. Adolphe teaches courses on international law, human rights, family law, and canon law.

Jim McManus is Joint Director of Public Health for Birmingham, the second largest city in the U.K. He holds advanced degrees in Psychology, Public Health, and Theology and serves as an Adviser to the Catholic Bishops' Conference of England and Wales' Health Care Reference Group. His many areas of research

include public health needs assessments, large-scale public health interventions, and theology of health.

NEWS



James McTavish, an IACB Associate, was ordained on Nov. 1, 2008 for the Verbum Dei Missionary Fraternity. Born in Scotland, Fr. McTavish read medicine at Cambridge University and qualified as a surgeon in Edinburgh. He studied moral

theology and bioethics at the Accademia Alfonsiana in Rome.



Bill Saunders

William L. (Bill) Saunders, a member of the Governing Council of the IACB, has a new position as Senior Counsel of Americans United for Life (AUL), a law and public policy organization based in

Chicago and Washington, D.C.



IACB Associate **Daniel (Dan) P. Sulmasy** has been appointed the inaugural Clinton-Kilbride Professor of Medicine and Medical Ethics in the School of Medicine,

Professor of Ethics in the School of Divinity, and Associate Director of the MacLean Center for Clinical Medical Ethics at the University of Chicago beginning July 1, 2009. **Lynn Jansen** will take over as Acting Chair of the Department of Ethics at St. Vincent's-Manhattan and the Bioethics Institute of New York Medical College.

Fellowships

The Edmund Pellegrino Fellowship is a one-month funded opportunity to study bioethics with Dr. Edmund Pellegrino at the Georgetown Center for Clinical Bioethics, Washington, D.C. The deadline for application is June 1, 2009. For online information, please visit:
clinicalbioethics.georgetown.edu/42558.html

Conferences and Courses

Intensive Bioethics Course 35: Bioethics Beyond the Sound Bite. Kennedy Institute of Ethics, Georgetown University, Washington, D.C., **June 1-5, 2009.** For information, e-mail:
shofies@georgetown.edu.

International Colloquium on Ethics, Disability and Justice. Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore, **June 18, 2009.** For information, e-mail:
centrodibioetica@unicatt.it

Global Bioethics: Science, Religion, and Human Rights in Dialogue. 8th Annual Bioethics Summer Course at Regina Apostolorum, **June 30-July 10, 2009.** For information online, visit:
http://www.upra.org/archivio_pdf/inglese_programma-orario_corso_estivo_2009.pdf.

10th Asian Bioethics Conference (ABC10), July 26-29, 2009 in Tehran, Iran. Information:
ABC10IRAN@TUMS.AC.IR

Session on Religion and Bioethics at the 30th International Society for the Sociology of Religion (ISSR) Conference in Santiago de Compostela, Spain, **July 27-31, 2009.** For information, e-mail: hg11@york.ac.uk.

8th Annual Conference on Contemporary Catholic Healthcare Ethics, **Oct. 9, 2009** in Chicago, USA. Details online at:
http://bioethics.lumc.edu/news_events.html.

FIBIP Congress: Bioethics and Religions, **Dec. 8-13, 2009** in Jerusalem. Details online at:
www.fibip.org.

2nd Conference of Catholic Theological Ethics, July 24-27, 2010 in Trent, Italy. Proposals for papers are due on June 30, 2009. Details online at: www.catholicethics.com.

10th World Congress of Bioethics of the International Association of Bioethics (IAB) in Singapore, **July 28-31, 2010.** Proposals for symposia are due on July 1, 2009 and for papers on Dec. 1, 2009. For information online, visit:
www.bioethics-singapore.org/wcb2010.

Recent Publications: Books

Fragilité de l'homme: Principes d'autonomie, de consentement et de dignité : Un colloque d' IACB. Paris : Ordre de Malte, 2009. Paper. 110 pages.

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Dominique de La Rochefoucauld-Montbel
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Stem Cell Research and Regenerative Medicine: Proceedings of the Third IACB International Colloquium

Contributors:

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 Helen Watt



Available in July 2009. Pre-order by e-mail to: secretariat@iacbweb.org

R. Cole-Turner, ed., *Design and Destiny: Jewish and Christian Perspectives on Human Germline Modification*. Boston: MIT Press, 2008. ISBN: 0262533014. Paper. 240 pages. [contains chapters by **T. A. Shannon**, **J. J. Walter**, and **L. Sowle Cahill**]

E. J. Furton, L. A. Mitchell, eds., *Walk as Children of Light: The Challenge of Cooperation in a Pluralistic Society*. Chicago: Univ. of Chicago Press, 2009. ISBN: 0935372465. Paper. 276 pages.

D. Novak, *The Sanctity of Human Life*. Washington, D.C.: Georgetown University Press, 2009 ISBN: 1589015045. Paper. 204 pages. [Based on a Jewish theological tradition that is sympathetic to Natural Law moral reasoning.]

A. Sutton, *Christian Bioethics: A Guide for the Perplexed*. Edinburgh: T & T Clark International, 2008. ISBN: 0567031977. Paper. 180 pages. [Contrasts the

approaches of John Paul II and of Peter Singer.]

J. B. Tubbs, Jr., *A Handbook of Bioethical Terms*. Washington, D.C.: Georgetown University Press, 2009. ISBN: 9781589012592. Paper. 208 pages.

Recent Publications: Articles

M. Aita, D. Bennett-Woods, P. A. Clark, J. M. DuBois, A. Haddad, M. Kuczewski, C. Taylor, J. J. Walter, 'Undue Burden?: The Vatican and Artificial Nutrition and Hydration', *Commonweal* 2009 Feb. 13;136(3): 13-15. ['As a general rule, health-care workers, families, and the magisterium all want what is in the best interest of patients. Discerning precisely what that is requires a conscience formed both by general principles provided by our Catholic tradition and by the concrete facts of a patient's circumstances and experiences.' (on p.15)]

R. Andorno. 'Human Dignity and Human Rights as a Common Ground for a Global Bioethics.' *The Journal of Medicine and Philosophy* 2009 June;34(3):223-40. [Shows the practical significance for bioethics of international human rights law.]

T. V. Berg, M. L. Condic, 'Emerging Bioethologies, the Defense of Embryonic Human Life, and Altered Nuclear Transfer', *The Linacre Quarterly* 2008 Nov;75(4):268-90.

E. C. Brugger, "Other Selves": Moral and Legal Proposals Regarding the Personhood of Cryopreserved Human Embryos', *Theoretical Medicine and Bioethics* 2009 Jun;30(2):105-129. [Proposes the Golden Rule as the basis of moral duties towards human embryos and responds to arguments denying their personhood.]

F. A. Carnevale, 'A Conceptual and Moral Analysis of Suffering', *Nursing Ethics* 2009;16(2):173-84. [*Discusses whether suffering can be objectively evaluated by another person and questions the validity of some decisional models for limiting life-sustaining therapies with the aim of preventing suffering.*]

P. A. Clark, 'Prejudice and the Medical Profession: A Five-Year Update', *Journal of Law, Medicine and Ethics* 2009 Spring;37(1):118-33. [*Provides an ethical analysis of health disparities that arise because of prejudice of health care providers.*]

B. Farrell-Roberts, 'Full Facial Transplantation: A Bioethical Study from a Catholic Perspective', *National Catholic Bioethics Quarterly* 2009 Spring;9(1):65-83.

L. M. García Pastor, 'Creencias religiosas y quehacer bioético', *Cuadernos de bioética* 2008 Sep-Dec;19(67):485-94. [*Proposes arguments for considering ethical reasoning elaborated from religious sources in bioethical debates.*]

S. A. Hurst, N. Mezger, A. Mauron, 'Allocating Resources in Humanitarian Medicine', *Public Health Ethics* 2009;2(1):89-99. [*Proposes an 'accountability for reasonableness' model.*]

D. A. Jones, 'What Does the British Public Think about Human Animal Hybrid Embryos?', *Journal of Medical Ethics* 2009;35:168-170.

M. Kuczewski, 'The Common Morality in Communitarian Thought: Reflective Consensus in Public Policy', *Theoretical Medicine and Bioethics* 2009 Jan;30(1):45-54. [*Discusses how a communitarian anthropology that is based both on invariant*

structures of morality and on contingent societal norms can contribute to building a moral consensus on issues such as providing universal health insurance.]

M. Kuczewski, K. Parsi. 'The Making of a Clinical Ethicist: Reviewing the Big Questions. In an Era of Lay Leadership, Catholic Moral Tradition Must Be Protected.' *Health Progress* 2009 Mar-Apr;90(2):42-8.

G. Magill, W. B. Neaves, 'Ontological and Ethical Implications of Direct Nuclear Reprogramming', *Kennedy Institute of Ethics Journal* 2009 Mar;19(1):23-32. [*Argues that recent success using direct reprogramming of human skin cells implies that every body cell has the 'natural potentiality of becoming a late-term fetus' if provided the necessary environment, and that this renders arguments for the protection of human embryos in research 'absurd' as this would imply that all human cells merit such protection.*] Cf. **M. L. Condic, P. Lee, R. P. George's** reply, pages 33-40 of the same issue.

C. Gastmans, J. de Lepeleire, 'Living to the Bitter End? A Personalist Approach to Euthanasia in Persons with Severe Dementia', *Bioethics* 2009 forthcoming. [*Provides an ethical analysis of advance directives regarding euthanasia of persons with severe dementia.*]

L. J. Materstvedt, 'Inappropriate Conclusions in Research on Assisted Dying' [letter], *Journal of Medical Ethics* 2009;35:272. [*Responds to the claim that there is no empirical evidence of pressure on vulnerable patients to request euthanasia by pointing out some flawed methodological assumptions.*]

J. M. Mfutso-Bengo, E. M. Mfutso-Bengo, F. Masiye, 'Ethical Aspects of HIV/AIDS Prevention Strategies and Control in Malawi', *Theoretical Medicine and Bioethics* 2008 Oct;29(5):34-56.

Leo Pessini, 'Terminalidade e espiritualidade: uma reflexão a partir dos Códigos de Ética Médica brasileiros e leitura comparada de alguns países', *O Mundo da Saúde* (São Paulo) 2009 ;33(1) :35-42.

P. T. Schotsmans, 'Christian Bioethics in Europe: In Defense against Reductionist Influences from the United States', *Christian Bioethics* 2009 Apr;15(1):17-30. [Argues that continental European bioethics developed in a Christian milieu and has foundations and an emphasis on dialogue that contrasts with the Principlist approach typical of secular Anglo-American bioethics.]

D. H. Smith, 'Christianity, Health and Genetics', *American Journal of Medical Genetics, Part C: Seminars in Medical Genetics* 2009 Feb;15;151C(1):77-80. [Argues that health is an intrinsic value that Christians should respect, but it is not the highest value. Christians should be willing to jeopardize their own health for the health of others, and should repudiate any idea that genetic problems are the result of sin.]

O. C. Snead, 'Bioethics and Self-Governance: The Lessons of the Universal Declaration on Bioethics and Human Rights', *The Journal of Medicine and Philosophy* 2009 June;3(3):204-22. [Analyzes the process of developing and adopting the UNESCO Universal Declaration of Bioethics and Human Rights, and reflects on implications for public bioethics on the international level.]

D. P. Sulmasy, 'Deliberative Democracy and Stem Cell Research in New York State: The Good, the Bad, and the Ugly', *Kennedy Institute of Ethics Journal* 2009 Mar;19(1):63-78. [Illustrates the pros and cons of various policy arrangements for making public policy decisions about morally controversial issues in bioethics.]

Electronic Media



Website: Blog Bioéthique
www.bioethique.catholique.fr

The Working Group of the French Bishops on Bioethics maintains this blog, which presents in-depth commentaries, in French, on current bioethical issues by academics.

Website: Consortium of Jesuit Bioethics Programs (USA)
www.jesuitbioethics.net

This site makes available information about publications, programs of study, symposia and other resources of the 7 U.S. Jesuit universities that make up the Consortium.

Website: American Medical Association Virtual Mentor
Virtualmentor.ama-assn.org

Each month, this site presents a theme in medical ethics with podcasts and videos that can be downloaded. In May 2009, for example, the theme is 'Specialty Choice and Business Decisions in Medicine', and there is a video of Edmund Pellegrino speaking on "The Character of the Physician".