

PHEN Communiqué: August 2010

Dear PHEN Member,

PHEN sends this *PHEN Communiqué* to members on a monthly basis, providing announcements and information on health ethics resources and events. If you do not wish to receive this monthly email bulletin, please reply to this email and write "unsubscribe" in the subject heading.

PHEN Announcements

PHEN Internship

PHEN is seeking an Intern to conduct research, provide programme support, develop materials and assist with special projects. PHEN will commit to providing the Intern with a basic orientation to the field of health ethics from both a theoretical and practical perspective, exposure to some of the major challenges of promoting ethical behaviour, and hands-on experience in developing programmes and services to meet the growing demand for ethics information and support. For more information, please visit <http://www.phen.ab.ca/jobs>

Alberta Health Act Consultation

In January 2010, the Minister's Advisory Committee on Health released the report *A Foundation for Alberta's Health System*, recommending that Alberta establish a single piece of legislation – the Alberta Health Act – to set the overall direction for the province's publicly-funded health system. The Government of Alberta recently engaged in a public consultation process, asking about core components of the proposed Alberta Health Act, and what that Act should do for the publicly-funded health system. As part of this process, PHEN was asked to review and provide feedback on the Report - the submission can be viewed at <http://www.phen.ab.ca/pcons/>. For more information on the Act and the consultation process, please visit <http://phen.ab.ca/legislation/aha.asp>

Introduction to Bioethics 2011 Distance Education Course

PHEN is accepting applications for its eleventh offering of the Introduction to Bioethics distance education course, running January to May 2011. The course, designed to bridge the gap between academic bioethics and clinical practice, integrates instruction from prominent North American bioethicists with the application of practical skills and case studies. The course has a flexible schedule and uses a delivery format that was designed with busy health professionals in mind, allowing individuals to participate directly from their residence or place of work. For more info, please visit <http://www.phen.ab.ca/disted/index.asp>

Other Announcements and Events

Moral Distress in Health Care Symposium

Vancouver, BC: September 18 - 19, 2010

This unique symposium will engage international, national and local scholars to advance policy, practice and research agendas on moral distress in health care. An interactive and engaging format will generate lively dialogue. For more info and to register, please visit <http://nursing.uvic.ca/home/MoralDistressinHealthCareSymposium.php>

Health Ethics Symposium: Disability Ethics

Edmonton, AB: October 15, 2010, 8:45 am – 4:30 pm

Wild Rose Room, Lister Centre, University of Alberta - 87 Avenue & 116 Street

This Symposium, coordinated by the University of Alberta's John Dossetor Health Ethics Centre, will introduce participants to disability ethics, help refine the concept of disability ethics and clarify its relationship with traditional health ethics. Registration is open to everyone; the day may be of particular interest to health care practitioners and administrators, scholars and students in health sciences, law and humanities, ethics committee members and ethicists. For more info, please visit www.ualberta.ca/bioethics/ or call 780.492.6676.

Health Ethics in the News

PHEN posts links to current news articles related to health ethics at <http://www.phen.ab.ca> - a few of the most recent articles are outlined below. Some of these sites require registration with the external website, but registration is free and only needs to be completed once.

Euthanasia Debate Heats Up in Quebec

<http://www.cbc.ca/health/story/2010/08/26/quebec-euthanasia-debate.html>

Who Should Decide When Care is Futile?

http://www.philly.com/inquirer/opinion/20100819_Who_should_decide_when_care_is_futile.html

Atheist Doctors 'More Likely to Hasten Death'

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/society/2010/aug/26/doctors-religious-beliefs-terminally-ill>

What It Takes to Become a Living Donor

http://online.wsj.com/article/SB10001424052748704905004575405233300863958.html?mod=rss_Health

Hundreds of IVF Embryos Donated 'Without Consent'

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/health/healthnews/7902308/Hundreds-of-IVF-embryos-donated-without-consent.html>

What Should Medicine Do When it Can't Save Your Life?

http://www.newyorker.com/reporting/2010/08/02/100802fa_fact_gawande?currentPage=all

Many Outraged as Accused Murderer Gets Liver Transplant

http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/38419132/ns/health-health_care/

The PHEN Communiqué is a publication distributed to members. PHEN members are encouraged to forward the Communiqué to their colleagues. If you have a health ethics event or announcement to publicise, please email it to middleton@phen.ab.ca for inclusion in an upcoming issue of PHEN Communiqué.