



BIOETHICS AND HUMANITIES at the Crossroads



AMERICAN SOCIETY FOR
BIOETHICS + HUMANITIES

23RD ANNUAL CONFERENCE

OCTOBER 11-16, 2021

Dynamic Virtual Meeting





BIOETHICS AND HUMANITIES at the Crossroads

Purpose

The ASBH Annual Conference is an arena for interdisciplinary exchange among professionals in the fields of bioethics and the health humanities.

Objectives

After participating in this conference, attendees should be able to

- explore emerging issues in bioethics and the health humanities
- discuss and apply recent research findings and insights from critical methodologies related to bioethics and the health humanities
- demonstrate how bioethics and the health humanities intersect to address emerging issues
- identify opportunities to advocate for structural, cultural, and disciplinary changes through the examination of diverse values and viewpoints.

Who Should Attend?

The American Society of Bioethics and Humanities (ASBH) Annual Conference is designed for physicians, nurses, attorneys, historians, philosophers, professors of literature and the humanities, members of the clergy, social workers, and others engaged in endeavors related to clinical and academic bioethics and the health-related humanities.

OVER
700
speakers

OVER
200
sessions

UP TO
24.75
CE credits*

*Up to 24.75 continuing education (CE) credits are available for continuing medical education, continuing nursing education, social work continuing education, and Healthcare Ethics Consultant-Certified (HEC-C) certification renewal.

Schedule at a Glance

All sessions will be livestreamed, with opportunities for audience engagement in the live Q&A sessions that follow.

Affinity Group Meetings and Meet-the-Expert Sessions

Monday, October 11

Preconference Session and Affinity Group Meetings

Tuesday, October 12

Conference Welcome, Opening Plenary Session, Concurrent Sessions, and Sponsor Engagement Sessions

Wednesday, October 13

An Evening with the Humanities

Wednesday, October 13, 7 pm CDT

At the Crossroads of the Humanities, Medicine, and Technology: A Reading and Discussion of Kurt Vonnegut's *Fortitude*

This session will explore Vonnegut's 1968 play, *Fortitude*, through a dramatic reading and panel discussion, to be livestreamed from the Kurt Vonnegut Museum and Library in Indianapolis, the city where Vonnegut was born and raised. The play presents a futuristic scenario in which a woman is kept alive as just a head on a tripod, manipulated by machines being controlled by a physician mastermind. Following the reading, reflections by three panelists from the hosting institutions will stimulate the conference attendees' discussion of the play's themes, including the purpose of medicine and ethical issues at the end of life and the role of the history of medicine and literature in framing these sensitive and important conversations.

Hosts: Indiana University Center for Bioethics; Medical Humanities and Health Studies Program of the Indiana University School of Liberal Arts; and The Charles Warren Fairbanks Center for Medical Ethics

Plenary Sessions, Concurrent Sessions, Affinity Group Meetings, and Sponsor Engagement Sessions

Thursday, October 14–Saturday, October 16

Preconference Session*_(extra-fee event)

Tuesday, October 12, Noon–3:30 pm CDT

HEC-C Review Course (001)

Member: \$110 Nonmember: \$160 Student: \$55

*All times listed are Central Daylight Time (CDT).

Affinity Group Meetings

Affinity group meetings provide opportunities for attendees to gather around common interests and disciplines. Many feature distinguished speakers and cutting-edge research. Join ASBH and participate in this valuable networking throughout the year. For more information, visit the ASBH website at www.asbh.org.

Plenary Sessions*

Plenary sessions will be prerecorded. A live Q&A session with the plenary speakers will be held at the conclusion of each presentation.

COVID-19 at the Crossroads

Wednesday, October 13

3–4:30 pm CDT

Moderator: Keith Wailoo, PhD

Panelists: Sandro Galea, MD DrPH MPH; Douglas B. White, MAS; Yolonda Yvette Wilson, PhD

We have all taken different roads through the COVID-19 pandemic. As we gather together with our common interests in bioethics and the health humanities, this panel provides an opportunity to reflect on what we have learned so far and to think critically about where we go from here. Our esteemed panelists—a historian, a philosopher, a physician epidemiologist, and a physician ethicist—will offer us the benefit of their perspectives and their visions, addressing issues of health equity, mental health, and clinical challenges, among others.

Turning Outside In: A Future Disability Bioethics

Thursday, October 14

2–3:15 pm CDT

Jackie Leach Scully, PhD FACSS FRSA

“Abnormal” bodies of different kinds have a central place in biomedicine, yet the relationship between disability and bioethics remains a prickly issue. Disability scholars have argued for some time that common cultural understandings of disability are limited, tending to exclude or overhomogenize the actual experiences of disabled people. This is an important realization for bioethicists, who necessarily draw on these common understandings in their normative work. In this presentation, Leach Scully will argue that bioethics needs to be both more critical about the meanings of normality and abnormality and more modest in its epistemic claims about disabled lives. One way of doing so is to distinguish between a disability bioethics that sees disability as a problem to be solved and a disability bioethics that considers disability a near-universal human experience that can be understood, and sometimes managed, in a variety of ways.

Addressing the Political Determinants of Health

Friday, October 15

1:30–2:45 pm CDT

Daniel Dawes, JD

As a nationally recognized healthcare and public health leader and policy expert who has been at the forefront of major federal health policy negotiations, including the Affordable Care Act, Dawes will discuss the critical bridge between social and political determinants of health and its potential to bring about greater health equity and, ultimately, better health outcomes for marginalized people and communities. After clearly defining political determinants of health, he will demonstrate the impact of key moments in American history, apply the significance of the health equity tracker to achieve equitable responses, and stress the importance of the Resiliency Network and how it is structured to address the challenges and opportunities related to data in this area.

**All times listed are Central Daylight Time (CDT).*

Registration

Member: **\$295**

Nonmember: **\$595**

Student: **\$60**

Save up to \$100 by registering on or before the early-bird deadline of **September 13, 2021**. ASBH members save even more. Find information on ASBH membership benefits and registration options, along with a printable registration form, at www.asbh.org.

Virtual conference registration fees are set in a way that makes the conference available to a broad variety of practitioners who normally may not have access to an in-person conference. Program directors are urged to take advantage of low student registration fees and encourage their students to attend.

Attendees will have a variety of ways to interact and connect throughout the full week of activities, October 11–16. The full registration fee includes

- live debates, panel presentations, performances and exhibitions, and workshops
- three plenary sessions followed by Q&As with the presenters
- live paper and flash presentations followed by Q&As with the presenters
- access to all session recordings after the conference
- virtual networking opportunities.

Conference Sponsors (as of May 21, 2021)



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