Thirty Years of MacLean Center Ethics Seminars

In 1981, under the auspices of the MacLean Center, Mark Siegler and Richard Epstein organized a yearlong interdisciplinary seminar series on Bad Outcomes after Medical Innovation. The success of that initial seminar program demonstrated that there was interest at the University of Chicago in creating a sustainable interdisciplinary forum to discuss health-related subjects with colleagues from across campus. For 30 consecutive years, the MacLean Center has sponsored a seminar series that has examined one key issue each year. Previous topics have included: health reform, pediatric ethics, controversies in end of life care, global health, and health care disparities. In the academic year 2011-2012, the Center will sponsor 30 seminars and 5 lectures on the topic of Medical Professionalism and the Future of American Medicine.

Medical Professionalism

“Medicine,” wrote Francis Peabody in 1927, “is not a trade to be learned but a profession to be entered.” In recent decades, a new focus in medical education on professionalism has been viewed as a way to improve patient care, to preserve the doctor-patient relationship, to reduce conflicts of interest, to improve physician self-regulation, and to strengthen the alliance between medicine and society. This seminar series will examine the role of professionalism in medicine today while also considering the historical and sociological origins, the philosophical foundations, and the economic and legal implications of medical professionalism.

This year’s interdisciplinary seminar series on professionalism was organized by Mark Siegler, the Director of the MacLean Center for Clinical Medical Ethics. The seminars are co-sponsored by the Pritzker School of Medicine and its Medical Education, Research, Innovation, Teaching and Scholarship (MERITS) Program directed by Dr. Holly Humphrey, Dean for Medical Education. The series organizers hope that these weekly seminar discussions will contribute to a deeper understanding, locally and nationally, about the future role of medical professionalism in medical education and medical practice.
Autumn Quarter 2011

September 28, 2011: Room H-103
The Invention of the Ethical Concept of Medicine as a Profession: The Importance of the Scottish and English Enlightenments for Contemporary Medical Ethics
Laurence B. McCullough, PhD, Baylor University

October 5, 2011: Room H-103
Professing Medicine or Pursuing Professionalism: Ethics or Affect? Edmund D. Pellegrino, MD, Georgetown University

October 12, 2011: Room H-103
A Challenge to Professionalism: Can We Put the Genie Back in the Bottle? Jordan J. Cohen, MD, George Washington University

October 19, 2011: Room H-103
Sociologist as Moralist: Elliot Freidson and the Concept of Professionalism
Andrew Abbott, PhD, University of Chicago

October 26, 2011: Room H-103
Moral Development and Professionalism in Medicine: Learning to Use Two Traditions of Navigation
Thomas S. Inui, ScM, MD, Indiana University

November 2, 2011: Room L-107
Probing Professionalism: Why Professionalism Is Controversial
Robert M. Veatch, PhD, Georgetown University

November 9, 2011: Room H-103
Expertise, Hierarchy, Power
Alasdair MacIntyre, MA, University of Notre Dame

November 16, 2011, 12:00-3:30 pm, University of Chicago Law School
MacLean Conference Professionalism Lectures (see inset)
Arthur Rubenstein, MB,BS, University of Pennsylvania
Christine Cassel, MD, American Board of Internal Medicine
Troy Brennan, MD, CVS Caremark
Paul Starr, PhD, Princeton University
Richard Epstein, LLB, New York University Law School

November 23, 2011: Room H-103
Professionalism and Medicine’s Social Contract with Society
Richard L. Crussé, MD, Sylvia R. Crussé, MD, McGill University

November 30, 2011: Room H-103
Promoting Professionalism
David Stern, MD, Mount Sinai School of Medicine

December 7, 2011: Room H-103
Professional Identity and the ‘Good’ Physician in Nineteenth-Century America
John Harley Warner, PhD, Yale University

Winter Quarter 2012

January 4, 2012: Room H-103
Defining Professionalism in the Digital Age
Jeanne M. Faram, MD, MPH, University of Chicago

January 11, 2012: Room H-103
Case Studies in Medical Professionalism: A View from the Front Lines
Holly J. Humphrey, MD, University of Chicago

January 18, 2012: Room H-103
Mobilizing Medical Professionalism to Redesign Care for Patients at High Risk of Hospitalization
David Meltzer, MD, PhD, University of Chicago

January 25, 2012: Room H-103
The Short History and Tenuous Future of Medical Professionalism: Whither Professional Associations and Why?
Matthew K. Wynia, MD, MPH, University of Chicago

February 1, 2012: Room H-103
Pediatric Education in Professionalism and Ethics: Are They the Same or Different?
Lainie F. Ross, MD, PhD, University of Chicago

February 8, 2012: Room H-103
Can Virtue Be Taught (to Physicians)? Contemporary Investigations of a Timeless Question
Farr Curlin, MD, John Yoon, MD, University of Chicago

February 15, 2012: Room H-103
Some Economics of Professionalism: Which Professions Need ‘Professionalism’ the Most?
Kevin Murphy, PhD, Robert Topel, PhD, University of Chicago

February 22, 2012: Room H-103
The Good Old Days: Evidence of Old World Professionalism in Modern Day Residency Trainses
Vineet Arora, MD, University of Chicago

February 29, 2012: Room H-103
The Limits of Professionalism: Historical Perspectives
Rosemary Stevens, PhD, MPH, Weill Cornell Medical College

March 7, 2012: Room H-103
Living and Teaching Professionalism: A Surgeon’s Perspective
Martha Nussbaum, MD, Douglas Baird, JD, University of Chicago

March 14, 2012: Room H-103
Living and Teaching Professionalism: A Surgeon’s Perspective
Peter Angelos, MD, PhD, University of Chicago

Spring Quarter 2012

March 28, 2012: Room H-103
Deprofessionalization of Medicine: The Relationship Between Medical Protocols and Clinical Judgment
Richard Epstein, LLB, New York University

April 4, 2012: Room H-103
Medical Education and an Aspirational View of Physician Professionalism
Molly Cooke, MD, FACP, University of California San Francisco

April 11, 2012: Room H-103
The Social Contract That Comes With Medical Professionalism
Lorrie Bristow, MD, Medical Consultant on Health Policy

April 18, 2012: Room H-103
A Skeptic’s View of Professionalism
Anup Malani, MD, JD, University of Chicago

April 25, 2012: Room H-103
Professionalism and Clinical Investigation
Jerry Menikoff, MD, JD, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

May 2, 2012: Room H-103
Professionalism and Public Accountability: The Role of Board Certification in the Modern Era
Wendy E. Levinson, MD, University of Toronto

May 9, 2012: Room H-103
Professionalism in Medicine: Leading a Life that’s Hittable
Wiley “Chip” Saub, MD, ScD, MHA, Dartmouth College

May 16, 2012: Room H-103
Professionalism: Etiquette or Habits
Kathryn Montgomery, PhD, Northwestern University

May 23, 2012: Room H-103
Professionalism and Humanism Intention: Blind Inclarity and Foggy Ambiguity
Charles Blask, PhD, University of Pennsylvania

November 11, 2011 | 100-3:30 pm, University of Chicago Law School
MacLean Conference 2011 Professionalism Lectures

1:00 Challenges and Opportunities for the Medical Professional
Arthur Rubenstein, MB,BS, University of Pennsylvania

1:45 Knights, Knaves or Pawns: Physicians as Accountable Professionals
Crystine Cassel, MD, American Board of Internal Medicine

2:30 Professionalism Theory to Action: The Case of Conflict of Interest in Prescription Medications
Roy Brennan, MD, CSIS, Caremark

3:45 Professionalism as a Public Resource
Paul Starr, PhD, Princeton University

4:15 Will the Dепrofessionalization of Medicine Improve Quality of Care?
Richard Epstein, LLB, New York University Law School

All sessions meet Wednesdays from 12:00 p.m to 1:15 p.m., Room H-103