The MacLean Center for Clinical Medical Ethics at the University of Chicago is the oldest and largest clinical ethics fellowship program in the world. Dr. Mark Siegler, the Founding Director of the MacLean Center, started the first clinical ethics fellowship in the nation in 1981. Since then, the MacLean Center has trained more than 450 fellows in a one year full-time or part-time program. Many of the fellows have enjoyed distinguished academic careers and have served as directors of ethics programs in the United States, Canada, Europe, and China. Current and former MacLean Center fellows and faculty have published more than 200 books. While most fellows are physicians, the Center welcomes applicants interested in medical ethics from any perspective, including philosophy, theology, nursing, law, and the social sciences. The MacLean Center, with more than 45 faculty members from many disciplines, provides an outstanding interdisciplinary setting for training in clinical medical ethics.

In 2013, the MacLean Center became the fourth program to receive the prestigious Cornerstone Award from the American Society of Bioethics and Humanities. This award is given for “outstanding contributions from an institution that has helped shape the direction of the fields of bioethics and/or medical humanities.” In 2016, Dr. Siegler and the MacLean Center received the prestigious Meyerhoff Award from the Johns Hopkins Burman Institute of Bioethics. The award letter states: “The training program established by you...has had a greater impact that any other clinical training program in the world.”

The MacLean Summer Intensive Program is unique. It offers fellows a 5-week intensive experience that includes more than 90 lectures and seminars taught by more than 30 MacLean Center Faculty. The intensive program offers lectures (“mini-courses”) on the following topics: clinical ethics, ethics consultation, mediation and negotiation, end-of-life care, research ethics, health policy and health disparities, surgical ethics, pediatric ethics, reproductive ethics, and psychiatric ethics. Participants interested in medical ethics from any perspective, including philosophy, theology, nursing, law, and the social sciences.

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