



TCC *Tulsa Community College*

The Biotechnology Series: Social & Ethical Issues in Biotechnology

Research consistently shows that one of the primary reasons people leave the biotechnology and allied health fields is burnout due to an inability to cope with the social and ethical issues they confront in fields they perceived as strictly "technical." Adding to this is the fact that biotechnology and medicine intersect with business, but scientists and health workers often experience mutual misunderstanding with business people. To address these gaps, Tulsa Community College is sponsoring The Biotechnology Series: Social and Ethical Issues in Biotechnology. Four internationally-recognized experts will speak at TCC in 2007-2008 on a variety of social and ethical topics in biotechnology. Each will present a morning lecture, which will be open to the public, and an informal professional development session for faculty and counselors in the afternoon.

Southwest Campus
10300 E. 81st Street
Tulsa, OK 74133-4513

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The Biotechnology Series: Social & Ethical Issues in Biotechnology

2007 / 2008

The Biotechnology Series: Social & Ethical Issues in Biotechnology



Fall 2007



Friday, October 12, 2007

10am-12pm, SEC Auditorium (9101) • 1:30pm-3:30pm, NEC Seminar Center

Dr. Mary Mahowald

Biotechnology, Ethics, and Women: Across the Life Span

Dr. Mary Mahowald began her career as a member of the University of Chicago Philosophy Department, but moved to the School of Medicine in 1982. There, she started their program in medical ethics, and became actively involved in ethical decision-making of patients, family members, and clinicians. She is now Professor Emerita at the MacLean Center for Clinical Medical Ethics at the University of Chicago, where her teaching, research, and clinical work continue. Dr. Mahowald's

wide-ranging research and analysis has focused on topics from disability to genetics to emergency contraception.

She has written eight books. The most recent, *Bioethics and Women: Across the Life Span*, was published in 2006 to glowing reviews. She has authored over 130 journal articles and book chapters. She has also published dozens of book reviews and letters in various journals and newspapers. She has testified to the current President's Council on Bioethics and, in 2005, edited a special issue of *Perspectives in Biology and Medicine*, about the Council's activities from 2002 – 2004.



Friday, November 9, 2007

10am-12pm, MC Film Lecture Room • 1:30pm-3:30pm, NEC Seminar Center

Dr. Josephine Johnston

Patent Rights, Biomedical Research, and Treatments: Balancing Innovation and Access

Dr. Johnston joined the Hastings Center in 2003. She is now an Associate for Law and Bioethics, the Director of Research Operations, and a member of the Editorial Committee for the *Hastings Center Report*. Before moving into the field of bioethics, she practiced law in both New Zealand and Germany. She has taught both law and ethics in New Zealand, Germany, Canada, and the U.S. at the University of Minnesota and the University of Oklahoma. She has received significant

grants from the Stem Cell Network of Canada, the Sasakawa Peace Foundation, and the National Institute of Health for research on topics from embryonic stem cell research to pharmacological treatment of behavioral disturbances in children, her current project. She is a grant reviewer for the NIH and a manuscript reviewer for numerous prestigious journals, including *The Lancet* and *Annals of Internal Medicine*.

Dr. Johnston has authored over two dozen journal articles and book reviews and been an invited speaker at many conferences. The *International Journal of Technology and Globalization*, *Journal of Bioethical Inquiry*, and *Developing World Bioethics* have published special issues for which she served as editor. Her extensive research and legal background led to her appointment to the Tri-Institutional Embryonic Stem Cell Research Oversight Committee, which serves the Medical College of Cornell University, Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center, and the Rockefeller University. As well, Dr. Johnston continues to explore issues such as financial conflicts of interest in biotechnology, barriers to accessing essential medicines, and body modification surgery.



Spring 2008



Friday, March 7, 2008

10am-12pm, SEC Auditorium (9101) • 1:30pm-3:30pm, NEC Seminar Center

Dr. Chris MacDonald

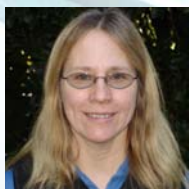
Biotech Ethics: Responsible Commerce on the Frontiers of the Life Sciences

Dr. Chris MacDonald is an Associate Professor of Philosophy and Coordinator of the Master's Programme in Philosophy at Saint Mary's University in Canada. He is the author of dozens of articles in such journals as the *Journal of Business Ethics*, *Nursing Ethics*, the *Canadian Journal of Psychiatry*, the *Business and Professional Ethics Journal*, and the *American Journal of Bioethics*. His research interests are health care ethics, business and professional ethics, and the foundations of moral theory.

He has received grants from the Canadian Institutes of Health Research, the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council, the Canadian Centre for Ethics in Public Affairs, and the Nova Scotia Health Research Foundation.

Dr. MacDonald also serves on the Editorial Board of the *Journal of Business Ethics* and is the President of the Canadian Society for the Study of Practical Ethics. He co-authored the 2007 Canadian edition of *The Power of Critical Thinking*. And he is currently writing a book on the topic of his presentation at Tulsa Community College: ethical issues in the biotech industry. To quote Dr. MacDonald:

"To date, most ethical reflection on biotech issues has come from those trained in bioethics. That's important work, because much of biotech is aimed at health care applications. But biotech also poses interesting ethical challenges for biotech corporations and professional challenges for biotech researchers. This project aims to focus on those challenges."



Friday, April 18, 2008

MC Film Lecture Room • 1:30pm-3:30pm NEC Seminar Center

Dr. Sandra Porter

Bioethics in the Workplace

Dr. Sandra Porter is the Director of Education and Co-Director of Research for Geospiza, a company specializing in bioinformatics software and data analysis systems. Before joining Geospiza, Dr. Porter was the director of the Biotechnology Program at Seattle Central Community College, where she developed one of the first bioinformatics courses in the country designed for biotechnology lab technicians. During this time, she was also the Northwest Regional Director of Bio-link, an advanced technology education center funded by the National Science Foundation.

At Geospiza, Dr. Porter is once again overseeing a National Science Foundation grant to develop lab manuals, data sets, and animated tutorials.

She believes bioinformatics provides an amazing opportunity for biology students to perform authentic research and that bioinformatics activities should be standard in all biology classrooms. In addition to her leadership in improving science education, Dr. Porter maintains an active research interest in genetic variation, SNP discovery, and the use of assembly algorithms in detecting alternative splicing.