Integrating Public Health and Health Care Ethics
CONTENTS

01 Education
Our graduate and Fellowship programs prepare students for leadership roles in bioethics.

02 Research
We engage the full spectrum of bioethics theory and practice in our research to tackle today’s biggest health challenges.

03 Partnership & Links
We cultivate excellence in bioethics through partnership and collaboration to effect change in ethics policy in Canada and abroad.

04 Our Footprint
We create spaces for knowledge exchange about bioethics topics and issues.

05 Awards, Honours & Promotions
We celebrate our faculty associates, students, and alumni who strive for excellence in practice and innovation within the JCB community.

06 Facts & Figures
Fast facts about our faculty associates and students.
At the JCB, we are increasingly aware that a new bioethics is needed for the 21st century—one which embraces an ethics of both individuals and populations, health care and public health, and health systems and health services, and importantly, one which engages the complex environmental, social, and other factors contributing to health.
THE THEME OF this report—Integrating Public Health & Health Care Ethics—signals important changes for the University of Toronto Joint Centre for Bioethics (JCB). On July 1, 2015, the JCB transferred from the Faculty of Medicine to the Dalla Lana School of Public Health (DLSPH) and in December 2015, the JCB celebrated its 20th Anniversary. While a change in Lead Faculty had not been contemplated in the development of the JCB’s 2012-17 Strategic Plan, significant changes within the Faculty of Medicine—notably, the creation of the DLSPH as a stand-alone Faculty in 2013 and the transition of the Institute of Health Policy, Management and Evaluation (IHPME) into the DLSPH in 2014—and the evolution of the bioethics field itself provided a compelling academic rationale for a strategic reorientation of the JCB’s plans. The DLSPH, together with IHPME, provides a natural academic home for the evolving breadth of JCB scholarship, which spans health care ethics, health system and policy ethics, research ethics, public health ethics, and global health ethics.

Bioethics came of age in the latter half of the 20th century at a time of significant advancement in life-extending technologies (e.g., drugs, organ transplantation), rapid expansion of the hospital sector, and social change embracing individual rights and needs. As a new field of scholarship and practice, bioethics was profoundly influenced by this critical moment in time. However, the health opportunities and challenges of the 21st century (e.g., complex chronic disease, genomics, big data, epidemics and globalization of disease, climate change) cannot be addressed by 20th century bioethics. At the JCB, we are increasingly aware that a new bioethics is needed for the 21st century—one which embraces an ethics of both individuals and populations, health care and public health, and health systems and health services, and importantly, one which engages the complex environmental, social, and other factors contributing to health. Having transitioned into the DLSPH, the JCB is positioned now more than ever to define, develop, and disseminate a new bioethics approach through its education programs, research and knowledge translation activity, and collaborations.

This is an exciting time for the JCB. I am grateful to our faculty associates, students, and alumni, as well as to our partners within the University and beyond, who have sustained and inspired us over the past 20 years. Together we will build on this legacy of excellence. In this first JCB biennial report, we provide a snapshot of the JCB’s research, education, and partnership activities and invite you to celebrate with us the accomplishments of our faculty associates, students, and alumni.

Jennifer Gibson
Sun Life Financial Chair in Bioethics and Director,
Joint Centre for Bioethics,
University of Toronto
01
EDUCATION

The JCB is closely associated with the development and administration of two graduate programs, including the Collaborative Program in Bioethics and the Master of Health Sciences in Bioethics program; three undergraduate philosophy courses offered through the Department of Philosophy; and one post-graduate Fellowship in Clinical and Organizational Bioethics. Through these programs the JCB has educated and trained over 300 bioethics leaders.

Training the Next Generation of Ethics Leaders

THE JCB HAS been providing leadership in bioethics education with both graduate and post-graduate training. The first graduate program coordinated by the JCB was the Collaborative Program in Bioethics (CPB) which began in 1994. It was followed in 1999 by the Master of Health Science (MHSc) in Bioethics Program. The JCB then expanded its bioethics education scope by adding post-graduate training in the form of the JCB Fellowship in Clinical and Organizational Bioethics in 2001.

Bioethics is fundamentally an interdisciplinary endeavour. Many of the contemporary problems of health systems call for robust interdisciplinary bioethics research. The CPB is a research-stream graduate program conducted in collaboration with 10 graduate units across the health sciences, humanities and law. Our collaborative program students are studying a wide range of ethics-related topics [see CPB graduating classes, page 9].

The MHSc in Bioethics, a professional master’s program in bioethics, prepares health practitioners, researchers, and administrators to address practical ethical challenges in health policy, research and care. Our graduate students are tackling critical ethics gaps in their practice [see our featured alumni story, page 7].

The JCB Fellowship trains individuals to become practicing healthcare ethicists in Canada and internationally. Since its inception the program has trained over 45 fellows who are now leading ethics programs in health institutions. Our current fellows are already making significant contributions to improving healthcare quality and addressing urgent health policy questions [see page 8].
Student Capstone Project Tackles Ethics Education Gap in the Department of Family Medicine at U of T

EVA KNIFED
Dr. Knifed (MHSc ‘16) led a qualitative study as her MHSc capstone project to establish an evidence-base for ethics curriculum development in the Family Medicine Residency in the Department of Family and Community Medicine (DFCM). Her motivation for this project came from her personal experience of a lack of ethics education during her own Family Medicine residency at the University of Toronto.

The qualitative study described DFCM clinical faculty member experience and needs with respect to teaching ethics to family medicine residents. The results of the study revealed that, while the faculty members appreciated the value of ethics in family medicine training, they lacked sufficient guidance on what should be taught and how best to incorporate this into their clinical teaching, including methods and allocated time for ethics teaching. They described relying on their own experience and noted a need for more robust local ethics expertise. Cased-based learning was identified as a more effective teaching modality than did-dactical learning. The findings were presented at the Canadian Bioethics Society Conference in May 2016, and will serve as the evidence-base for a new curriculum pilot to be implemented starting in July 2017.
LAUREN NOTINI

Notini joined the JCB after receiving her PhD at the University of Melbourne in Australia. She has completed her bioethics rotations at the University Health Network (UHN), Humber River Hospital (HRH), Sinai Health System (SHS), Centre for Addiction on Mental Health (CAMH), and The Hospital for Sick Children (SickKids).

Through these rotations, she co-authored a white paper on ethical issues associated with the management of hospital patients deemed alternate level of care (ALC) in the local health system; conducted a scoping review of the clinical and normative ethics literature on the allocation of solid organ transplants to individuals with substance use issues; co-facilitated a half-day workshop titled “The Gatekeepers’ Dilemma 2: Wading through the ethics of allocating funded IVF to Ontarians” for fertility clinicians and administrators, representatives from the Ontario Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care, lawyers, ethicists, students and members of the Canadian Fertility & Andrology Society; and aided in developing hospital policies regarding the implementation of Medical Assistance in Dying (MAID).

RUBY RAJENDRA SHANKER

Shanker is an internationally trained physician with clinical experience in general and community medicine, and is a graduate of the Master of Health Sciences (MHSc ’15) in Bioethics. She has completed her rotations with UHN, HRH, CAMH, and SickKids.

She led and published a literature review on the Capacity Assessment Tools utilized within mental health practice to provide a foundation for bioethicists and clinicians while exploring the ethical considerations of capacity assessment in the context of MAID; participated in the SickKids Transplant and Regenerative Medicine Committee developing SickKids Guidelines for responding to Transplant Patients and Families; consulted on the process for MediTech documentation for MAID at HRH; and served as Faculty Tutor in the Teaching Bioethics course of the MHSc in Bioethics program.

Shanker recently joined UHN Bioethics as a bioethicist for the Toronto General Hospital site.
COLLABORATIVE PROGRAM IN BIOETHICS (GRADUATING CLASSES)

2015-16
Tieghan Killackey (MN)
No thesis required
Lawrence S. Bloomberg Faculty of Nursing

Yoelit Lipinsky (MA)
“Hepsed & Bechi: Halkha”
Study of Religion

Sophie Roher (MSc)
“An Exploration of how Male Adolescents who had Childhood Cancer Make Sense of Infertility”
Institute of Health Policy, Management and Evaluation

2014-15
Renata Axler (PhD)
“Commercialization, Collaboration and Conflict of Interest: An Institutional Work Analysis of Academic Entrepreneurship in Canada”
Institute of Health Policy, Management and Evaluation

Evelyne Durocher (PhD)
“Discharge Planning with Older Adults: The Influence of Social and Political Systems and Contexts”
Rehabilitation Sciences Institute

Lara El-Zahabi (PhD)
“Beyond Consent: A Relational Model of Community Authorization for Genetically Modified Mosquito Trials in Developing Countries”
Institute of Medical Science

Kass Gibson (PhD)
“Witness the Fitness: Bioethics, Sport and Exercise Science”
Facility of Kinesiology & Physical Education

Barry Pakes (PhD)
“Ethical Analysis in Public Health Practice: Heterogeny, Discensus and the Man-on-the-Clapham Omnibus”
Institute of Medical Science

Kadia Petricca (PhD)
“District Health Planning and Priority Setting in Ethiopia: A Systems Analysis of Strategic Implementation and Strengthening Procedural Fairness”
Institute of Health Policy, Management and Evaluation

John Pringle (PhD)
“Charity Medicine for the Global Poor:
Humanitarian Ethics and the Nigerian Lead-Poisoning Outbreak”
Dalla Lana School of Public Health

Constance (Connie) Williams (PhD)
“Ethical Decision-Making in the NICU: Family & Providers Perspectives”
Institute of Health Policy, Management and Evaluation

Student Achievements

OUR STUDENTS

2014-15
Saulat Aamer (Medicine and Surgery)
Sabrina Akhtar (Obstetrics and Gynaecology)
Francesca Di Paolo (Family Medicine)
Michelle Jones (Nursing)
Sarah Katz (Nursing)
Mohammad Khan (Public Health)
Jennifer Kim (Nursing)
Chryssa McAlister (Ophthalmology)
Raza Naqvi (Medicine)
Simon Oczkowski (Critical Care)
Arthy Sabapathy (Philosophy)

2015-16
Abeer Algasim (Family Medicine)
Lauren Chad (Genetics and Paediatrics)
Melissa de Souza (Family Medicine)
Douglas Gowans (Biological Sciences)
Dana Katz (Social Work)
Eva Knifed (Family Medicine)
Sujana Madathil (Medicine)
Rochelle Maurice (Social Work)
Dhalia (Dolly) Menna-Dack (Arts - Bioethics)
Tracey Moffatt (Nursing)
Julie Muravsky (Social Work)
Phil Shin (Internal Medicine and Critical Care)
Marie Steele (Biomedical Sciences)

Ruby Rajendra Shanker (Internal Medicine)
Maqbool Ahmad Sharifi (Medicine)
Aamir Warsi (Dentistry and Bioethics)
Adelicia Yu (Obstetrics and Gynaecology)
Andrew Franklin-Hall joined the Department of Philosophy in 2014 and as such is the department representative on the CPB executive committee. He is also a faculty associate with the Centre for Ethics at the University of Toronto.

His main scholarly interests in bioethics concern the nature of autonomy; moral significance of different stages of life; the idea of medical competence; how to make decisions for incompetent persons, esp. children and dementia patients; and the mature minor doctrine.

In his current research, Franklin-Hall is currently exploring the themes of dementia, value-change and self-binding, as well as patient autonomy and consent. His contention is that many ethical questions are best considered within the context of a whole life, not abstractly in terms of timeless, ageless agents. One aspect of this lies in thinking about how different stages of life—e.g., childhood, early adulthood, middle-age, old age—may be valuable in distinctive ways. A second aspect turns on a recognition that the ethical significance of what is happening to a person at one point in time is frequently dependent on its relation to the rest of her life. Such considerations are especially relevant in the contemporary context of an aging society.

Barbara Gibson supervises our CPB students through the Rehabilitation Science Institute and other collaborating graduate units. She holds cross appointments at the CanChild Centre for Childhood Disability Research at McMaster University, and the Person Centred Research Centre at AUT University in Auckland, New Zealand.

Gibson is an international leader in advancing new methods and philosophical approaches in physical therapy and rehabilitation. She investigates how social, cultural, and institutional practices intersect in producing health, inclusion/exclusion, and identity with disabled children and youth. She was awarded the Norington Medal by the Australasian Faculty of Rehabilitation Medicine which recognizes international leadership in rehabilitation research by an allied health professional.

Current projects examine key areas of practice and policy that affect pivotal life choices in the lives of young disabled people and their families – transitioning to adulthood, independent living, optimizing mobility and activity participation, and understanding relationships between mobility, identity, and social inclusion.

Trudo Lemmens holds cross appointments in the Dalla Lana School of Public Health, the Faculty of Medicine, and the JCB. He supervises CPB students through the Faculty of Law and teaches Research Ethics in the MHSc in Bioethics program. Currently, his main focus is on the complex interaction between law, other governance tools, and ethical norms and values in the context of health care, biomedical research, health product development, and knowledge production.

Lemmens contributed to research and policy on the ethical issue of MAID. He drew comparisons and analysis between the Carter v. Canada case and lessons learned from the Belgian (and to some extent Dutch) euthanasia legislation and practice for Canada’s options post-Carter. He co-authored two papers related to MAID in the context of psychiatric disorders in the Canadian Medical Association Journal and in the Journal of Ethics in Mental Health. In addition, he presented before the Joint Parliamentary Committee and both the Senate and House of Commons Committees that were looking at MAID legislation, and presented on the issues in academic and public settings.

His other focus over the last few years has been continued research on pharmaceutical governance and he has given several plenary lectures in Canada and in several other countries, particularly Latin America.
The JCB’s research mandate engages the full spectrum of bioethics theory and practice with a primary focus on applied interdisciplinary bioethics research. Our faculty associates continue to achieve success in peer-reviewed grants and publications and to make significant contributions through knowledge translation activities for broader impact in health policy and practice. Meet 6 of our faculty associate researchers.

**STEPHANIE NIXON**

Associate Professor, Department of Physical Therapy, Rehabilitation Sciences Institute, and Dalla Lana School of Public Health; Director of the International Centre for Disability and Rehabilitation

Stephanie Nixon has been an HIV activist and researcher for 20 years. In 2015, she helped launch the *E-Module on HIV for Rehabilitation Providers in Sub-Saharan Africa* in five countries: Canada, Cameroon, Kenya, South Africa and Zambia. The goal of the online e-module is to help address the needs of the 24 million people living with HIV in Sub-Saharan Africa by increasing knowledge about HIV care among rehabilitation providers.

Nixon continued to deepen her insights around ideas of power and privilege, how they operate in health care, health education and health research, and the subtleties of trying to build capacity (i.e. teach) on these delicate topics. She has given a series of dynamic talks that use kindness, humour and introspection to bring privilege out of the shadows, and reflect on the power of this insight for improving global health equity.

Nixon was also a co-guest editor of a special issue of *Health and Human Rights Journal*. The issue featured a special section on ‘Bioethics and the Right to Health’, as well as articles on Human Rights Impact Assessment, antiretroviral medicine, sex work and human trafficking, and reproductive rights.

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**ELIZABETH PETER**

Associate Professor, Lawrence S. Bloomberg Faculty of Nursing; Chair, Health Sciences Research Ethics Board, University of Toronto

Elizabeth Peter is recognized nationally and internationally for her research on moral identity, moral agency, vulnerability, moral competency, and moral distress. She has also used metaethics to develop a critical narrative approach for qualitative research in healthcare ethics.

She is a highly sought-after supervisor of CPB student dissertation research given her extensive interdisciplinary background in nursing, philosophy and bioethics, and her methodological expertise in critical narrative approaches and qualitative research in healthcare ethics, particularly in home and community care ethics.

Her current CIHR funded research is examining the patient, family and clinician experience from an ethical, legal, and social perspective as care transitions from hospital to home using new monitoring technology (Technology-Enabled Remote Monitoring and Self-Management - Vision for Patient Empowerment Following Cardiac and Vascular Surgery).

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**ROSS UPSHUR**

Professor, Department of Family and Community Medicine; Division Lead, Clinical Public Health, Dalla Lana School of Public Health; Scientific Director, Bridgepoint Collaboratory for Research and Innovation, and Assistant Director, Lunenfeld Tanenbaum Research Institute, Sinai Health System

Ross Upshur is a longstanding CPB faculty member in the Institute of Medical Science, the IHPME, and the DLSPH. His scholarly approach exemplifies the interdisciplinarity of bioethics incorporating methods from the humanities, health sciences, and social sciences to address complex ethical problems in health systems and health care. His excellence in student mentorship is recognized in the biannual *Ross Upshur Graduate Thesis Mentorship Award*.

Upshur leads ground-breaking research in global and public health ethics, the philosophy of medicine, complexity in chronic disease, and empirical approaches in bioethics. His expertise on ethical aspects of epidemic outbreaks, such as SARS, Ebola, and tuberculosis, has influenced health system policies internationally. In 2016, he received the Family Medicine Researcher of the Year Award from the College of Family Physicians of Canada.

Upshur currently works closely with the World Health Organization and Médecins Sans Frontières on ethics in global health policy and research.
Visiting Scholars to the JCB

Solomon R. Benatar, Distinguished Senior Scholar in Global Health Ethics and Policy (South Africa)

**THIS LAST YEAR**, the JCB had the pleasure of hosting a number of Visiting Scholars to the centre. In April 2016, the JCB welcomed back Solomon (Solly) Benatar. He continues to impart to the JCB community, and internationally, his vast personal experiences in bioethics while making strides to forge new future pathways in ethics education.

Benatar has a long-term relationship with the JCB which began in 2000. He is internationally recognized as one of the founding scholars of global health ethics. In addition to building bioethics capacity in South Africa as Founding Director of the UCT Bioethics Centre, he was the Director of a Fogarty International Center funded educational program *International Research Ethics in Southern Africa (IRENSA)*. Benatar taught international research ethics in the MHSc in Bioethics and has served as faculty mentor for numerous JCB faculty associates and students.

At the JCB, Benatar has been leading the development of new curriculum in public health ethics and global health ethics for the MHSc program in Bioethics and with Professor Ross Upshur he is developing a new teaching module linking individual health with public health, at the Institute of Health Policy, Management and Evaluation (IHPME). He is collaborating in a comparison of health care in South Africa and Canada with a view to seeking methods of improving equity and sustainability in these different countries.

**Visiting Scholars**

- **Solomon R. Benatar**
  South Africa
  April-July 2016

- **Angel Petropanagos**
  Canada/Dalhousie University
  April-June 2016

- **Noriko Nagao**
  Japan
  January-March 2016

- **Angus Dawson**
  Australia/University of Sydney
  April-May 2016

- **Diego Silva** *(CPB - MA '06, PhD '13)*
  Canada/Simon Fraser University
  March 2016

- **Cheryl Cline**
  Canada/Queen’s University
  July 2014-June 2015

- **Lynette Reid**
  Canada/Dalhousie University
  September-October 2014

- **Louise Campbell** *(JCB Fellow '08)*
  Ireland/National University of Ireland Galway
  August-September 2014
Investigating Ethics and Values in Care Transitions

DRS. JENNIFER GIBSON and Ross Upshur led an interdisciplinary team as part of a CIHR-funded Partnerships for Health System Improvement grant entitled “Ethics and values in health policy: improving care transitions for Ontario’s patients across the continuum of care”. The goal of the study was to investigate how values inform policy-making, influence policy decisions, and affect policy implementation in the context of patient care transitions across the continuum of care in Ontario through an ethics lens.

Four case studies of Health Links in southern Ontario investigated how ethics and values influence care transitions in this emerging policy and practice context. A Stakeholder Forum was held with representatives from all four Health Links, the Ministry of Health & Long Term Care, and Health Quality Ontario to report the case study findings and to facilitate knowledge exchange among the four Health Links about the ‘values-base’ of Health Link planning and implementation. Participants agreed that while Health Links were an important step toward providing more seamless care to clinically complex patients in Ontario, there were continuing gaps in health system capacity to address the increasingly complex social needs of these patients. Patient-centredness was identified as a core value that ought to guide care coordination policy and practice; however, this was often found to be in tension with other system values, particularly efficiency. The need for more explicit values-based discussions at different levels of the health system was identified.
PARTNERSHIPS & LINKS

Partnerships and collaborations have been, and will continue to be, constitutive of the JCB’s “jointness” and success. The JCB has a tradition of academic citizenship, which includes a commitment to working collaboratively with stakeholders to advance ethically sound policy and practice in the health system.

Infectious Disease in a Global Community

IN THE WAKE of the severe acute respiratory syndrome (SARS) outbreak in Toronto in 2003, the JCB has been actively collaborating with policymakers, scholars, and health professionals on ethics and epidemics. JCB faculty associates have been contributing their expertise to the World Health Organization (WHO)’s response to the Ebola virus outbreak in West Africa and were also consulted by the Ontario Ministry of Health and LongTerm Care in its preparedness planning. In September 2014, the JCB hosted a special international panel discussion on “Ethics and the 2014 Ebola Outbreak” which aimed to delve into ethical issues and global public health related to the Ebola virus outbreak. Key issues for discussion included: appropriate use of experimental pharmaceuticals, public trust, priority setting and global health inequities. More recently, the JCB has been collaborating with the University of Miami Ethics Programs to explore the novel ethical and practical challenges raised by the Zika virus at the intersection of reproductive rights, health and social care systems, and public health responses.
The Ethics of Implementing Medical Assistance in Dying in Canada

The JCB Task Force has become a province-wide ethics community of practice to advance understanding of MAID.

IN APRIL 2015, the JCB Task Force on Implementing Medical Assistance in Dying (MAID) was created to anticipate and respond to ethical issues arising of the result of the *Carter v. Canada* decision. Chaired by Dr. Philip Hébert, Professor in the Department of Family and Community Medicine, the Task Force aimed to inform the development of a regulatory framework for MAID in Canada. Its report “After *Carter v. Canada*: Physician Assisted Death (PAD) in Canada: Report and Recommendations” was released in December 2015.

Subsequently, the JCB Task Force, currently chaired by Sally Bean (Fellow ’07), Director of the Ethics Centre at Sunnybrook Health Sciences Centre, turned its attention toward operational issues of implementing MAID in the healthcare system. It published a clinically-focused discussion paper “An Ethics-Based Analysis and Recommendations for Implementing Physician-Assisted Dying in Canada” and a checklist “Key Considerations for Addressing Interim Requests for a PAD Exemption” for health institutions in addressing interim requests for a MAID exemption during the 4-month extension period granted by the Supreme Court of Canada. The JCB Task Force also released a draft policy template for health institutions “Medical Assistance in Dying Draft Policy Template”, which also includes a draft FAQ for patients and families.

The JCB Task Force provided a forum for interdisciplinary discussion, knowledge exchange and collaboration encompassing a diverse group of perspectives. Its members included practicing healthcare ethicists, health professionals, legal experts, scholars, and community members working in collaboration with health system stakeholders, such as the Ontario Hospital Association, the Ontario College of Family Physicians, the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Ontario, the Toronto Academic Health Sciences Network (TAHSN), the Canadian Medical Association and the Ministry of Health and Long Term Care. The JCB Task Force has become a province-wide ethics community of practice to advance understanding of MAID, facilitate coordination across different stakeholders, and promote quality of end-of-life care, including MAID, across the health system where possible.

For MAID resources, please visit our website: [http://jcb.utoronto.ca](http://jcb.utoronto.ca)

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**Advancing Global Health Ethics in Partnership with the WHO**

**THE JCB IS** one of the World Health Organization Collaborating Centres for Bioethics (WHO CCs). The JCB received its designation in 2002, when it became the first WHO CC. In April 2009, the Global Network of WHO CCs was created as a collaborative initiative which brings together six centres to “improve global health by creating synergies that increase policy impact of bioethics on a global scale.”

Funding was provided for this start-up of this network from CIHR.

WHO CCs are key institutions with relevant expertise distributed throughout the world. The purpose of the network is to provide WHO with the extended and integral capacity to implement its ethics mandate. Ongoing collaboration and knowledge exchange with WHO CCs enhance the scientific validity of WHO’s work on ethics. In this respect, WHO encourages connections and partnerships among its CCs to “achieve enhanced results, to facilitate resource mobilization and to strengthen capacity, in particular at the regional level.”

In 2016 alone, the first document produced by the WHO CC network, *Global Health Ethics: Key Issues*, was downloaded 5,000 times. Since its original publication it is being reprinted and translated into other languages. The JCB had the lead role in advancing this collaborative effort.

As part of the Global Network of WHO CCs, the JCB is working on the following reports:

- Guidance for Managing Ethical Issues in Infectious Disease Outbreaks (released in 2016)

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The JCB Celebrates 20 Years of Bioethics
Leadership

IN DECEMBER 2015, the JCB celebrated its 20th year. To mark this important milestone, the JCB held a variety of events to celebrate the impact and accomplishments of JCB students, graduates, faculty, members & partners, to advance new thinking in bioethics by engaging the depth and breadth of JCB scholarship, and to create new opportunities for collaborative leadership in bioethics. The focal point of the celebration was the symposium panel on “The Future of Bioethics” which featured current and past JCB Directors—Jennifer Gibson, Frederick Lowy, Peter A. Singer, and Ross Upshur—with Jim Lavery as moderator.

The JCB also leveraged its weekly Bioethics Seminar Series in order to showcase our members while providing them with a platform to examine critical bioethical issues affecting health and health care systems. Several panel discussions took place throughout the year which emphasized big ethical ideas such as:

- Ethics and the 2014 Ebola Outbreak
- Approaches to Evaluating Institutional Ethics Programs
- Public Health Ethics: What Next?
- Assuming Too Much, Assuming Too Little: Bioethics and Addiction in Three Treatment Contexts

In addition to these events, the JCB created two new awards aimed at celebrating those in our community: Distinguished Service to the JCB; and Outstanding Alumni of the JCB. The winners were present at the JCB 20th Anniversary Celebration on December 2nd to receive their awards.

DISTINGUISHED SERVICE TO THE JCB
This award “is given to a person who has demonstrated: service to the JCB in one or more capacities over an extended number of years; primary driver behind one or more major initiatives that have been crucial to the JCB’s development; recognized widely, both within and outside the JCB, as a key contributor to and member of the JCB; and embraces and reflects the values of the JCB.”

There were two winners for the Distinguished Service Award: Martin McKneally, MD, PhD; and Frank Wagner, MA, MHSc (’06).

McKneally received this award in recognition of his exemplary dedication and commitment to the JCB’s bioethics community. He is Professor Emeritus of Surgery at the University of Toronto, and has been a JCB member since its inception. At the JCB, his bioethics scholarship has focused on learning, teaching and conducting research on ethical issues in surgery, particularly related to informed decision making and innovative treatment. He teaches in the MHSc Program in Bioethics, supervises graduate students in the Collaborative Program in Bioethics, and is the driving force and inspiration for developing surgical ethics as a growing area of academic scholarship at the University of Toronto. He has...
Jeff Blackmer, BSc, MD, MHSc ('01), FRCP, was the winner of the Outstanding Alumni of the JCB Award.

Blackmer received this award in recognition of his key leadership role in MAID—one of the most important medical-ethical issues of our time. Blackmer is a graduate of the first class of the MHSc in Bioethics program, and he is currently the Vice President Medical Professionalism at the Canadian Medical Association (CMA), and the Chief Ethics Advisor at the World Medical Association (WMA). Blackmer also has a clinical practice at the Ottawa Hospital Rehabilitation Centre. He actively contributes to clinically-focused, peer reviewed publications on a regular basis, in addition to policy development and dissemination on the topics of medical ethics, professionalism and human rights. In 2014, the CMA, under the stewardship of Blackmer and Maclean’s magazine, began a journey to engage the Canadian physicians and the public in a national dialogue focused on three main issues: palliative care, advanced care planning and MAID.

Wagner received this award in recognition of his pioneering work in promoting community ethics combined with his ongoing exceptional commitment to education and mentorship of students. He holds an academic appointment as Assistant Professor with the Department of Family and Community Medicine at U of T. Wagner is widely recognized for his leadership in community care ethics. He graduated from the MHSc in Bioethics program in 2006 and subsequently became an ethicist with the Toronto Central Community Care Access Centre (CCAC). He founded the ethics program at the Toronto Central CCAC and co-founded the Community Ethics Network, a network for community-based health and social support agencies in central and southern Ontario. His work on the IDEA decision framework has been widely adopted by health organizations internationally. He is a highly sought-after educator in community-based ethics and a gifted mentor to JCB Fellows, MHSc students, and medical trainees. Wagner initiated the development of a partnership with the Toronto Central CCAC, Department of Family and Community Medicine, the Toronto Central LHIN, and the JCB to facilitate integration of ethics and primary care. Currently, he is a member of the JCB Task Force on Medical Assistance in Dying (MAID), co-chairing one of its working groups.

OUTSTANDING ALUMNI OF THE JCB

This award honours outstanding contributions of a graduate member of the JCB to the field of bioethics.

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Blackmer received this award in recognition of his key leadership role in MAID—one of the most important medical-ethical issues of our time. Blackmer is a graduate of the first class of the MHSc in Bioethics program, and he is currently the Vice President Medical Professionalism at the Canadian Medical Association (CMA), and the Chief Ethics Advisor at the World Medical Association (WMA). Blackmer also has a clinical practice at the Ottawa Hospital Rehabilitation Centre. He actively contributes to clinically-focused,
JCB Hosts the 27th Annual Canadian Bioethics Society Conference in Toronto

THE JCB HOSTED and co-sponsored the 27th Annual Conference and Meeting of the Canadian Bioethics Society (CBS) in May of 2016. Dianne Godkin (Fellow ’03) and Sally Bean (Fellow ’07), longstanding JCB faculty associates based at Trillium Health Partners and Sunnybrook Health Sciences Centre respectively, co-chaired this bioethics conference. The theme of this year’s conference was Achieving Better Health: The Role of Bioethics Education, Engagement and Exploration. The conference featured keynote addresses from Prof. Alice Dreger (Northwestern University), Prof. Daniel Weinstock (McGill University), and Dr. Ross Upshur (University of Toronto).

For the first time, the CBS conference partnered with the Canadian Association of Research Ethics Board (CAREB) for the pre-conference workshops and opening keynote. The keynote speaker was Globe and Mail Health Reporter André Picard on “Topic Engaging Responsibly: How to Reach out to Patients and the Public.” Sponsorship for this conference was provided by the Dalla Lana School of Public Health, the Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR), Trillium, Sunnybrook, and the JCB.

It was an incredibly successful conference that incorporated two endowed lectures sponsored by the JCB—the Alloway and Jus Lectures. The Alloway Lecture featured the award winning documentary, Tales from the Organ Trade, featuring a Q&A with Director and Producer, Ric Esther Bienstock. The Jus Lecture was the closing keynote for the conference. It comprised of a panel discussion with international experts, Drs. Kenneth Brown, Claudia Emerson, and Effy Vayena, and moderated by Dr. David Henry, discussing the ethical challenges related to “Data, Big Data and Really, Really Big Data: Balancing Values and Advancing Policy.”

JCB Director, Jennifer Gibson, also chaired a Fireside Chat on Physician Assisted Dying with a national panel of experts: Maureen Taylor (Provincial-Territorial Expert Advisory Group on Physician Assisted Death), Nuala Kenny (Dalhousie University), Andrée Foti (College of Physicians and Surgeons of Ontario), James Downar (University Health Network), and Eugene Bereza (McGill University).

A number of JCB students were involved in leading 18 concurrent sessions, co-presented two pre-conference workshops and presented nine posters. CPB student, Sophie Roher, received a CBS Student Abstract Award in recognition of her presentation “Stories of Childhood Cancer: How Might Frank’s Narrative Typologies Illuminate Young People’s Cancer Experiences?”.
Donor Support for Bioethics: Endowed Lectures at the JCB

THE JCB HAS two endowed lectures, the Annual Alloway and Jus Lectures, which bring world-renowned scholars to speak on issues in bioethics.

ALLOWAY LECTURES
The Alloway Lecture Series, established by Maranatha Foundation in 1993, brings to the University each year one or more experts of international stature in the broad field of bioethics to deliver lectures on topics related to ethical aspects of organ transplantation, when possible, but the Lectures are not limited to this field of medical ethics.

• The 15th Alloway Lecture speaker was Linda Emanuel, Buehler Professor of Medicine; Director, Buehler Center on Aging, Health & Society, Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine. Her talk was on “Care of the human spirit in palliative and hospice care: How can we know what to do?”;
• The 16th Alloway Lecture featured George C. Webster, a Clinical Ethicist with the Health Care Ethics Service at St. Boniface Hospital, and Associate Professor in the Department of Family Medicine, University of Manitoba. His talk was “A Just and Loving Gaze: The Heart of Clinical Ethics”;
• The 17th Alloway Lecture took place as part of the Canadian Bioethics Society (CBS) Annual Conference in May 2016. It featured a documentary, Tales from the Organ Trade, and a conversation with Producer and Director Ric Esther Bienstock who is an Emmy Award-winning filmmaker and Winner of the Birks Diamond Tribute to the Year’s Women in Film.

JUS LECTURES
The Jus Lecture Series was created by Dr. Karolina Jus in 1994 in honour of her late husband, Dr. Andrzej Jus. Its mandate is to bring to the University of Toronto an internationally recognized major contributor to the advancement of genetics, neuroscience, psychiatry and its ethical implications.

• The 16th Jus Lecture was the closing keynote at the CBS Conference and it tackled the topic of “Data, Big Data, and Really, Really Big Data: Balancing Values and Advancing Policy”. It featured an international panel including Effy Vayena, Professor of Health Policy, University of Zurich; Dr. Claudia Emerson, Director of the Program on Ethics and Policy for Innovation, Department of Philosophy, Faculty of Humanities, McMaster University; Kenneth W. Goodman, Founder and Director, University of Miami Miller School of Medicine’s Institute for Bioethics and Health Policy; and was moderated by Dr. David Henry, Professor, Health Systems Data, Institute of Health Policy Management and Evaluation, Dalla Lana School of Public Health, University of Toronto.

WITH THE SUPPORT of our partners, alumni and friends, we are educating Canada’s future bioethics leaders, influencing health policies and practices, and advancing ethics knowledge locally, nationally and internationally. This investment in bioethics will enable the JCB to continue shaping important ethical, health-related topics through research, education, and service activities.

When you choose to financially support the JCB, your impact is greater than what one person could accomplish alone. Together we are developing the next generation of bioethics leaders to confidently tackle the difficult ethical issues in health systems today and in the future.

For more information on how you can get involved, give annually, create a named fund, or consider the JCB in your estate planning, please contact Ryan Lindsay, Senior Development Officer, Dalla Lana School of Public Health at ryan.lindsay@utoronto.ca. We thank you for your support.
Ana Komparic: 2016 Peter A. Singer Award in Bioethics Recipient

The Peter A. Singer Award supports a thesis project award for graduate students enrolled in the Collaborative Program in Bioethics. Preference is given to projects using a solution-oriented approach and to a student of merit. Peter A. Singer was the Director of the JCB from 1995 to 2006.

Ana Komparic was the 2016 recipient of the Peter A. Singer Award in Bioethics in recognition of her thesis work in “Investigating the Normative Elements of the National Pharmacare Policy Debate in Canada”. Komparic was a Master of Science (MSc) student and is currently a doctoral student of the Pharmaceutical Science (Clinical, Social, and Administrative) program at the Leslie Dan Faculty of Pharmacy, and a graduate student in the Collaborative Program in Bioethics coordinated by the JCB. Her supervisor is Alison Thompson (Leslie Dan Faculty of Pharmacy).

Komparic’s thesis characterizes and analyses the normative dimensions of the contemporary national pharmacare policy debate in Canada with the objective of developing recommendations for pharmaceutical insurance policy reform. Canada remains the only country with a mature public health insurance system that does not include broad pharmaceutical coverage. The contemporary patchwork of public and private pharmaceutical benefit schemes leaves many Canadians un- or under-insured and has rendered access to medicines variable across jurisdictions as well as socioeconomic, age, and disease groups. Calls for a national pharmaceutical insurance scheme have resurfaced in the Canadian media and policy landscape over the past several years and pharmaceutical policy is expected to feature in the imminent federal health accord negotiations.

Komparic completed a qualitative content analysis of 63 policy documents and media opinion pieces from 2000 to 2015 to characterize the explicit and implicit normative concepts that feature in the pharmacare policy debate. To inform the conceptual component of her investigation, she drew on philosophical theories of the values of justice and efficiency in health care to evaluate the robustness and coherence of the debate and to identify whether perceived value conflicts are contributing to an impasse in Canadian pharmaceutical policy. Additionally, Komparic offered policy-relevant recommendations for how and what pharmaceutical policy reforms ought to be pursued in Canada (e.g., public vs. private payer, whether to provide comprehensive or catastrophic coverage, priority-setting for reimbursement, etc.).

2015 Winner:
Pam Kolopack, MSc, PhD(c) (CPB’08)
Public Health Sciences
Ahmed Al-Awamer: 2015 Larry Librach Prize in Ethics and End of Life Care

This award was created to recognize the lifetime devotion of Dr. S. Lawrence (Larry) Librach to scholarship, education and practice in end of life care and to honour his tenure as the Director of the JCB from 2011-2013.

IN 2015, AHMED Al-Awamer was the recipient of the Larry Librach Prize in Ethics and End of Life Care. He was a graduate of the Master of Health Science (MHSc) in Bioethics program at the JCB.

As part of the MHSc in Bioethics program, Al-Awamer completed an original qualitative study “Developing a Palliative Care Service Model for Muslim Middle Eastern Countries” that aimed to characterize some of the important differences between palliative care in Western countries and palliative care in the Middle East. He conducted interviews with a dozen palliative care specialists, half of whom were western-based physicians who had worked in the Middle East, and the other half who were Middle Eastern physicians who trained to the west.

Using this approach, he was able to gain multiple perspectives that enabled a more accurate characterization of some of the important ethical differences between these two regions with respect to palliative care. Al-Awamer’s project was presented at a national meeting of Palliative Care Physicians, and won first prize in the resident research competition. In addition, the results of this study were published, with co-author James Downar, in the journal Supportive Care in Cancer.

2016 Winner: Philip Shin, MD, MHSc (Bioethics), FRCPC Internal Medicine

Faculty Associate, Student, and Alumni Awards & Achievements

AWARDS & RECOGNITIONS

Jeff Blackmer (MHSc ’01)
2016 Alumni of Distinction Award
(Professional Achievement Award – Medicine), Schulich School of Medicine and Dentistry, Western University

Paula Chidwick (Fellow ’02)
2015 Alumni Achievement Award, Improving & Driving Excellence Across Sectors (IDEAS), Health Quality Ontario

Donald Cole
1st Annual Vic Neufield Mentorship Award in Global Health Research, Canadian Coalition for Global Health Research

Avi Denburg
2015 Trudeau Foundation Scholarship

Barbara Gibson (CPB ’98)
2015 Norington Medal, Australasian Faculty of Rehabilitation Medicine, Wellington, New Zealand

Pamela Klassen
2015 Northrop Frye Award, University of Toronto

Nabeel Mangadan-Konath (MHSc ’12)
Scholarships, National University of Singapore, and University of Edinburgh

Hazel Markwell
2014-15 Alumna/Alumnus of the Year, St. Paul’s University

David Mc Knight (MHSc ’06)
2014 Gold Medal, Canadian Anesthesiologists’ Society

Fiona Miller
2014 Kiran van Rijn Award, The Health Care, Technology and Place, CIHR Strategic Training Program, University of Toronto

Carol Nash
2015 Arbor Award, Faculty of Medicine, University of Toronto

Stephanie Nixon (CPB ’06)
2014 Global Health Award, Canadian Physiotherapy Association (CPA); 2015 Dean’s Rising Star Award, Faculty of Medicine, University of Toronto

Jill Oliver (Fellow ’12)
2015 Alumni Achievement Award, Improving & Driving Excellence Across Sectors (IDEAS), Health Quality Ontario

Fabio Salamanca-Buentello (CPB ’06)
2016 Student Abstract Award, Canadian Bioethics Society 27th Annual Conference

Heather Sampson (MHSc ’04, Fellow ’05)
2015 Anderson Award for Program Innovation and Development, Wightman-Beris Academy, Faculty of Medicine, University of Toronto

Diego Silva (CPB MA ’06, PhD ’13)
2016 Mark S. Ehrenreich Prize, University of Southern California

Ross Upshur
2015 Family Medicine Researcher of the Year Award, College of Family Physicians of Canada

Eric Wasylchenko (MHSc ’12)
2014 Dr. William Marsden Award in Medical Ethics, Canadian Medical Association

Nancy Walton (CPB ’03)
2016 CAREB-ACCER Distinguished Service Award, Canadian Association of Research Ethics Boards
APPOINTMENTS & PROMOTIONS

Rosalind Abdool (Fellow ‘14)
Bioethicist, Trillium Health Partners; Adjunct Lecturer, Dalla Lana School of Public Health, University of Toronto

James Anderson (Fellow ’13)
Bioethicist, Trillium Health Partners

Sally Bean (Fellow ’07, THP/JCB Senior Fellow ’08, Sunnybrook/JCB Senior Fellow ’09)
Director, Ethics Centre, Sunnybrook Health Sciences Centre

Jeff Blackmer (MHSc ’01)
Vice President of Medical Professionalism, Canadian Medical Association

Jonathan Breslin (Fellow ’04)
Ethicist, Southlake Regional Health Centre and Mackenzie Health (shared position)

Daniel Buchman
Bioethicist, University Health Network (Toronto Western Site); Assistant Professor, Dalla Lana School of Public Health, University of Toronto; Member, Bioethics Advisory Committee, Canadian Blood Services

Donald Cole
Full Professor, Dalla Lana School of Public Health, University of Toronto

Eoin Connolly (Fellow ’05)
Adjunct Lecturer, Dalla Lana School of Public Health, University of Toronto

Angus Dawson
Professor of Bioethics/Director, Centre for Values, Ethics, and the Law in Medicine (VELiM), University of Sydney

Christopher de Bono (Fellow ’13)
Vice-President, Mission, Ethics, and Spirituality, Providence Health Care - Vancouver

James Downar (MHSc ’10)
Associate Professor, Department of Medicine, Faculty of Medicine, University of Toronto

Jennifer Gibson (CPB ’02)

Ann Heesters
Director of Bioethics, University Health Network

David Kaplan (CPB ’97)
Provincial Clinical Lead, Primary Care, Health Quality Ontario and Board, North American Primary Care Research Group; Associate Professor, Department of Family and Community Medicine, University of Toronto

Alexander Karabanow
Manager, Coordinated Approval Process for Clinical Research (CAPCR), Clinical Research Services, University Health Network

Dario Kuzmanovic (MHSc ’12)
Director of Research Integrity, University of California at Riverside

Sue MacRae
Adjunct Professor, Dalla Lana School of Public Health, University of Toronto

Nabeel Mangadan-Konath (MHSc ’12)
Visiting Faculty in Bioethics, PSG Institute of Medical Science and Research (PSGIMSR)

Benoit Morin (CPB ’01)
President/Executive Director, CSSS Central West Island - Montreal

Stephanie Nixon (CPB ’06)
Associate Professor, Department of Physical Therapy, University of Toronto

Nancy Ondrusek (CPB MSc ’94, PhD ’10)
Adjunct Lecturer, Dalla Lana School of Public Health, University of Toronto

Doreen Ouellet (MHSc ’03)
Adjunct Lecturer, Dalla Lana School of Public Health, University of Toronto

Barry Pakes (CPB ’14)
Program Director, Public Health and Preventive Residency Program, Dalla Lana School of Public Health, University of Toronto

John Pringle (CPB ’15)
Postdoctoral Fellowship in Humanitarian Health Ethics, McGill University; Vice Chair, Médecins Sans Fronitières (MSF) Ethics Review Board

Zahava Rosenberg-Yunger (CPB ’09)
Director, Health Policy and Research, Ontario Pharmacists Association; Adjunct Professor, Health Services Management, Ryerson University

Diego Silva (CPB MA ’06, PhD ’13)
Assistant Professor, Faculty of Health Sciences, Simon Fraser University

Maxwell Smith (CPB ’16)
Ethicist, North York General Hospital and Ethics Centre, Sunnybrook Health Sciences Centre

Michael Szego (MHSc ’10, Fellow ’11)
Manager, Centre for Clinical Ethics

Frank Wagner (MHSc ’06)
Interim Ethicist, Ontario Shores Centre for Mental Health Sciences

Nancy Walton (CPB ’03)
Special Advisor to the Deputy Minister, Ontario Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities; Research Ethics Board, Women’s College Hospital

Connie Williams (CPB ’15)
Adjunct Lecturer, Dalla Lana School of Public Health, University of Toronto

Shawn Winsor (MHSc ’03, Fellow ’04)
Adjunct Lecturer, Dalla Lana School of Public Health, University of Toronto

Randi Zlotnik Shaul (CPB LLM ’92, PhD ’00)
Senior Associate Scientist, Child Health Evaluative Sciences, Research Institute, The Hospital for Sick Children

BOOK PUBLICATIONS


Jeff Nisker. Patiently Waiting For... February 2016.
Among University of Toronto affiliated hospitals ethics programs, over 70% are led or staffed by a graduate of the JCB Fellowship. In Ontario, the vast majority of academic health sciences centre ethics programs are led by a graduate of one of the JCB’s affiliated academic programs.
FACTS & FIGURES

JCB faculty associates, students and alumni are playing continuing academic and leadership roles in bioethics. Many faculty associates teaching in the MHSc program or supervising CPB students are themselves graduates of these programs. In Ontario, the vast majority of academic health sciences centre ethics programs are led by a graduate of one of the JCB’s affiliated academic programs, and they are making an impact on ethics policy not only in their organizations but on a global level as well.

FACULTY ASSOCIATES

FACULTY ASSOCIATE NUMBERS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Count</th>
<th>Description</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>44</td>
<td>Faculty Associates</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>61</td>
<td>Grants</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>320</td>
<td>Peer reviewed publications</td>
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<tr>
<td>189</td>
<td>Peer reviewed presentations</td>
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<tr>
<td>36</td>
<td>Practicing health ethicists at U of T-affiliated health institutions</td>
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POLICY IMPACT

Currently, our faculty associates are contributing their expertise to policy, regulatory and research bodies, such as the Ontario Health Technology Assessment Committee, the Ontario Ministry of Health and Long Term Care, the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons Ethics Committee, the Trillium Gift of Life Network Ethics Committee, the Ontario Cancer Research Ethics Board, the Canadian Association of Research Ethics boards, the CIHR Institute Advisory Board on Research Excellence, Policy, and Ethics, the World Health Organization, the Canadian Bioethics Society, Canadian Blood Services, the Canadian Council of Academies, and various local or regional REBs, networks and committees.

FACULTY ASSOCIATES BY DEPARTMENT

- FAS (Faculty of Arts and Science)
- IHMPE (Institute of Health Policy, Management and Evaluation)
- LAW (Faculty of Law)
- MED (Faculty of Medicine)
- NUR (Faculty of Nursing)
- PHM (Faculty of Pharmacy)
- PHS (Public Health Sciences)
- SW (Faculty of Social Work)
- Other

JCB FUNDING

Funding Snapshot for 2015-16

- DLSPH (Dalla Lana School of Public Health)
- Education (programs)
- External Sources (e.g., research recoveries, consulting)
- Endowments (Sun Life Financial Chair in Bioethics, Alloway and Jus Lectures)
STUDENTS

MHSc STUDENTS PROFESSIONAL BACKGROUNDS

Our MHSc students come from a variety of professions, and their interprofessionality is a great strength of the program. The 2014-16 graduates have expertise in the following areas:

- Arts
- Dentistry
- Medicine (family, internal, surgery, obstetrics & gynaecology, ophthalmology, pediatrics)
- Nursing
- Philosophy
- Public Health
- Sciences (biological, biomedical, genetics)

FELLOWSHIP GRADUATES

70+% of U of T affiliated health institutions ethics programs are led or staffed by a graduate of the JCB Fellowship

CURRENT STUDENTS

28
MHSc students
34
CPB students

CPB GRADUATE STUDENTS

9
Master’s
25
PhD

CPB GRADUATES BY DEPARTMENT

DLSPH (Dalla Lana School of Public Health)
IHMPE (Institute of Health Policy, Management and Evaluation)
IMS (Institute of Medical Science)
KPE (Faculty of Kinesiology & Physical Education)
NUR (Lawrence S. Bloomberg Faculty of Nursing)
RSI (Rehabilitation Sciences Institute)