



**Association of Bioethics Program Directors**  
Westin Pittsburgh Convention Center Hotel  
Rooms 304 and 305  
Pittsburgh, PA  
October 23, 2019

**Meeting Minutes**

Meeting started at 6:00 PM

**In Attendance**

Applewhite	Megan	Albany Medical College
Bolton	Jonathan	University of New Mexico
Bulger	Jeffrey	Chicago Medical School
Case	Gretchen	University of Utah
Demme	Richard	University of Rochester
Derse	Arthur	MCW
Doukas	David	Tulane University
Eberl	Jason	St. Louis University
Gallagher	Colleen	University of Texas
Garrett-Bell	Jamila	Emory University (notetaker)
Goodman	Ken	University of Miami
Grady	Christine	NIH Clinical Center
Hendriksen	Joan	Children's Minnesota
Hester	Micah	UAMS
Iltis	Ana	Wake Forest University
Joffe	Steve	U Penn
Jones	Nora	Temple University
Juengst	Eric	UNC
Kaldjian	Lauris	University of Iowa
King	Nancy	Wake Forest University
Kinlaw	Kathy	Emory University
Klitzman	Robert	Columbia University
Koenig	Barbara	UCSF
Kogan	Claudio	U. of Texas Rio Grande Valley SOM
Krohmal	Ben	MedStar Washington
Kuczewski	Mark	Loyola University
Lee	Sandra	Columbia University
Lipman	Hannah	Hackensack University Medical Center
Macpherson	Cheryl	St. George's University
McGuire	Amy	Baylor College of Medicine
Meador	Keith	VUMC
Mitchell	Christine	Harvard
Nash	Ryan	Ohio State University
Parker	Lisa	University of Pittsburgh
Powderly	Kathy	SUNY Downstate Medical Center
Redinger	Michael	Western Michigan University
Rhodes	Rosamund	Icahn School of Med at Mt. Sinai
Rosell	Tarris	Kansas City University
Rosenthal	M. Sara	University of Kentucky
Sederstrom	Nneka	Children's Minnesota
Sharp	Richard	Mayo Clinic
Solomon	Mildred	The Hastings Center
Streiffer	Robert	University of Wisconsin, Madison
Tabor	Holly	Stanford Center
Wilfond	Ben	Seattle Children's
Wolpe	Paul	Emory University
Wynia	Matt	University of Colorado

### Welcome and Introductions: Paul Root Wolpe

Paul welcomed and thanked members for attending the meeting. Members introduced themselves.

### President’s Report: Paul Root Wolpe (PowerPoint)

Paul did a review of the ABPD Mission and Vision then showed slides to illustrate where the organization is now compared to seven years ago. We have accomplished these goals: meeting with NIH leadership constituencies, reaching out to AAMC leadership and other organizations & advocating for the value of bioethics programs, pursued and crafted a formal alliance with ASBH, added some osteopathic school members, presented and shared examples of model programs at our spring meetings. We have either partially accomplished or haven’t accomplished these other planned goals: Survey of salaries and program budgets, hosting a forum on the sustainability of bioethics programs creation of an access point for media inquiries, pursuit of philanthropy, expansion of executive director role and funding to foster philanthropy and act as a conduit for collaborative projects among programs.

His final slide asked, “What should be our agenda items moving forward?” Paul’s suggested items are listed below. A brief group discussion followed.

- Discussing our revenue model and use of our resources
- Develop a better media strategy
- Continued conversation to clarify our relationship with ASBH, and engage other organizations more fully
- Implement the proposed director mentoring program, and perhaps a similar program for program administrators
- Solidify a survey strategy and program
- Discuss better services for junior scholars – what is ABPD’s role?
- Reach out more fully to osteopathic schools
- What else????

### Treasurer’s Report: Micah Hester (PowerPoint)

Micah reported that the EOY FY19 balance as of June 30, 2019 was \$89,223.41. The current balance as of October 1 is \$78,991.01. Below is a more detailed breakdown of income and expenses. The organization is financially sound.

	EOY FY19 Balance	Last Meeting Balance
	as of 6/30/19	as of 04/01/19
	\$89,223.41	\$74,519.71
Income	Expenses	Current Balance
Fiscal YTD	Fiscal YTD	as of 10/01/19
<b>\$16,000.00</b>	<b>\$26,232.40</b>	<b>\$78,991.01</b>
<b>Primary Income</b>	<b>Primary Expenses</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dues               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• \$13,500</li> <li>• \$500 (+/-fees)/member</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Workshop Sponsorships               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• \$2,500</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Meetings               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Annual Meeting (-\$9,011+)</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Workshop               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Presenter (-\$17,205+)</li> </ul> </li> <li>• <u>Misc</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• State filings (-\$15)</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	

### ABPD Mentorship Program Presentation: Amy McGuire (PowerPoint)

Amy gave an update on the development of the mentorship program. She and Lindsey Feuerman created an onboarding packet (with input from the board) which will be circulated to new members and maintained on the ABPD website. Highlights from the onboarding packet include:

- History of ABPD
- Mentorship Program
- Fall & Spring Meeting Information
- Website
- Resources
- Email List Serve

Amy also talked about key program features and next steps for the emerging mentorship program. A discussion began after the question was asked if there are other organizations that have required mentorship programs.

#### Responses:

1. No.
2. U. of Kentucky has an organizational development program.

#### Suggestions for Emerging Program:

1. New members self identifies and seek guidance from senior members
2. Thriving programs could come together to identify best practices and develop inexpensive consultation
3. Offer helpful tips for 5-year reviews especially for new directors.
4. Organize mentorship pairings by similar program focus
5. Have monthly calls to address suggested questions
6. Survey people who are starting or growing in their roles to ask what their needs are and what topics would they want to discuss
7. Senior people could suggest topics new members should know; Intergenerational mentoring
8. Models: 1:1 and/or "pods" (i.e. small mixed groups of senior, mid and junior directors)
9. Create and use a listserv
10. Poll members for better spring meeting dates to boost in person mentor opportunities
11. CAPC (Center to Advance Palliative Care) program with one-on-one yearlong mentorship was cited as a useful model

#### Open Discussion I- Creating a Business Administrator Taskforce

Amy started a discussion about the idea of creating a taskforce for program business administrators. The discussion quickly expanded to include two other groups to become a total of three new consortia spin-offs from ABPD to encourage more information and knowledge sharing amongst our bioethics centers. Those groups are:

1. Bioethics program administrators
2. Bioethics graduate program directors (PhD or Masters)
3. Clinical ethics program directors

Amy will send out a brief poll to program directors to ask who from their programs should be included in each of the consortia.

#### NIH Bioethics Funding Panel Discussion

##### Taunton Paine, Senior policy analyst and team lead clinical health care and research policy, NIH Office of Science Policy's Support for Bioethics (PowerPoint)

OSP promotes progress in the biomedical research enterprise through the development of sound and comprehensive policies. OSP also is the primary policy adviser to the NIH Director on matters of significance to the agency, the research community, and the public.

- Congress has appropriated \$5 million annually for OSP to support bioethics research
- Overarching goal is to integrate bioethics across the spectrum of NIH research and to expand the evidence base to inform sound practice and policy
- Funds have been administered through a variety of mechanisms including administrative supplements, contracts, and co-funding

- Major topics of past several years have included Single IRB issues; informed consent, including in standard of care research and broad consent; research use of biospecimens; neuroethics
- Examples include a large literature review on broad consent<sup>1</sup> and survey on prospective participants' views on biobanking<sup>2</sup>; both provided evidence to inform revisions to the Common Rule
- Paine then noted the FY19 Administrative Supplements FOA
- These are for existing NIH awards, and must be made within scope of the parent award; Can only commit to one year at a time; As an example, there were most recently 30 awards of administrative supplements to 14 existing awards, e.g. NAS workshop of bioethics research Return of results, Precision medicine and Vulnerable Populations
- OSP awarded **30 administrative supplements**<sup>1</sup>
- Total: **\$3,973,881**
- Supplemented **14 ICs'** awards out of 18
- FOAs are published in the *NIH Guide for Grants and Contracts*
- **Visit:** <https://grants.nih.gov/funding/searchguide/index.html#/>

<sup>1</sup> Garrison et al, "A systematic literature review of individuals' perspectives on broad consent and data sharing in the United States," *Genet Med.* 2016 Jul; 18(7): 663–671, <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC4873460/>

<sup>2</sup> Smith et al, "Conducting a large, multi-site survey about patients' views on broad consent: challenges and solutions," *BMC Med Res Methodol.* 2016; 16: 162, <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC5122167/>

## Elaine Collier, NIH Bioethics

Bioethics Research at NIH:

- Bioethics research is valued and supported by NIH
- Trans-NIH Coordinating Committee on Bioethics Research and Training
  - Established by NIH Director
  - Share information across NIH ICs and Offices
  - Identify gaps and opportunities for bioethics research
  - Liaison with Association of Bioethics Program Directors
- Outreach to bioethics and research communities
- Outreach to other funders and organizations

Types of Research Supported:

- Bioethical empirical and conceptual research
- Legal empirical and conceptual research
- Social and societal implications research
- Not restricted to human subjects or genomic focused research
- Of interest and within mission of an NIH institute
- Strongly encouraged to talk to a program contact at NIH about your idea prior to submission
- NIH website and NIH resource contact sheet
- Specific Examples: BRAIN initiative, NHGRI, Fogarty International Center,
- National Center for Advancing Translational Sciences (NCATS) Ethics Research Program established 2019  
TR-20-001 Ethical issues in Translational Science Research (RO1) - \$300K direct up to 4 years  
**NCATS FOA:** <https://osp.od.nih.gov/clinical-research/bioethics-research/>

## Khara Ramos, Director of the Neuroethics Program at NIH, National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke (NNINDS), Neuroethics: An Essential Partner for Neuroscience

Vision for the NIH Brain Initiative:

**Goal:** See the circuits in action to understand:

- The neural basis of perception, cognition, emotion, and behavior
- How brain circuit dysfunction cause brain diseases and disorders

**Long-term goal:** Make circuit abnormalities the basis of diagnostics, and normalization of circuit function the target of intervention

The neuroethics strategy for the \$5.5 Billion NIH BRAIN Initiative emphasizes proactive, ongoing assessment of the neuroethical implications of the development and application of BRAIN-funded tools and neurotechnologies

### **Integrating neuroethics into the science:**

Neuroethics Working Group  
Neuroethics Guiding Principles  
Topical workshops  
NIH team of program directors  
Funded neuroethics research

**Please visit:** <https://www.braininitiative.nih.gov/> and [Neuroethics Roadmap](#)

And ACD Brain initiative

<https://acd.od.nih.gov/working-groups/brain2.0.html>

### **Open Discussion II: Various Topics**

#### **Announcements:**

1. Bioethics on the Border, January 5-6, 2020 at U. of Texas Rio Grande Valley SOM will discuss immigration issues (Claudio Kogan)
2. [World Congress of Bioethics, June 19-21, 2020](#); registration is open and sponsorship opportunities are available (Steve Joffe)

#### **Seeking Advice:**

1. Barbara Koenig asked for input regarding undergraduate medical education. She is seeking guidance related to content, evaluation and resources.

#### **Suggestions to Expand ABPD:**

1. Endocrine Bioethics Society is in development (M. Sara Rosenthal)
2. Create repository of regulatory and quasi-regulatory information about accreditation of programs, conflict resolution, responsible conduct of research requirements, etc.
3. Start consultation services and trainings
4. Consider mid-career faculty educator track award
5. Consider creating an ABPD media strategy
6. Create stronger ties to other organizations; Jason Eberl is co-director of APPE Bioethics

### **ASBH certification process for healthcare ethics consultants (HEC-C) exam experiences and the outcomes:**

#### **Micah Hester**

Micah started the discussion about the HEC-C exam and the outcomes. What should be considered:

1. Economic pressures for financially challenged institutions
2. Are there alternative credentialing standards by institutions?
3. Does the exam set a low bar? There needs to be a baseline.
4. Create a better verification process/improve the test
5. There needs to be some oversight of the creation of test questions
6. ABPD should advocate for what standards to achieve
7. Consider the impact of the examination and process for programs

#### **Task Force Reports**

##### **Bioethics Research Scholarship & Funding: Ben Wilfond**

1. This group also organizes pre-ASBH workshops
2. We are considering offering the grant writing workshop again next year
3. Open to suggestions for others

##### **Survey: Colleen Gallagher**

1. Forming a new survey committee
2. Will begin collecting information for a compensation survey

The meeting adjourned at 9:25 PM.

Note: Next meeting dates are:

ABPD Spring 2020 Atlanta March 30, 2020

ABPD Fall 2020 Baltimore Oct. 14, 2019

ABPD Spring 2021 Chicago April 5, 2021

Meeting minutes submitted by Art Derse and Jamila Garrett Bell