



## Spring 2014

### *Director's Report*

**A Tale of Building Bridges: CHPE and Alegent†Creighton Health Launch Podcast Series**

*by Amy Haddad, PhD*

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**FOCUS Editor: Amy Haddad, PhD; Associate Editor: Kate Tworek, MEd**

An overarching metaphor in the newly unveiled Creighton University strategic plan is “bridge building” between programs and services within the University. Theoretically speaking, it seems like a good idea to build bridges, but practically speaking, where do you start? Who should you work with and what tools or skills will you need? The Center for Health Policy and Ethics and Alegant†Creighton Health recently collaborated to start a new podcast series, *Bioethics Beyond the Bedside*, that focuses on ethical issues in the outpatient clinical setting. Building this particular bridge took time and considerable effort that is largely invisible. To appreciate the behind the scenes work for such a project, it is best to start at the beginning.

*Bioethics Beyond the Bedside* began with a discussion in the spring of 2013 between Center faculty and staff and Leslie Kuhnel, MPA, MSHCE, Director of the Alegant†Creighton Health Ethics Center, about the need for ethics education for clinicians who practice in outpatient settings rather than the traditional, hospital setting. We wondered what would be the best format for ethics education to reach busy clinicians in the outpatient settings at Alegant†Creighton Health and perhaps a broader audience. There seemed to be little time during the day for clinicians to attend face-to-face education sessions. Also, the outpatient sites were geographically distant from one another. Travel to a central site for education was another drain on time. Even the option of sitting in front of a computer for an hour to watch an ethics webinar seemed to demand too much time. We wondered if audio podcasts of short, focused content on a particular ethical issue that clinicians encounter in the outpatient setting was the ticket. A brief foray into the bioethics literature didn't turn up much on the topic of ethics in the outpatient setting. What we did learn is that clinical bioethics in the United States has been shaped by the institutions in which the majority of care has been delivered, i.e., hospitals. However, in the future an increasing number of patients will receive their care in outpatient settings that include clinics, same-day surgery centers, community pharmacies, rehabilitation facilities, and behavioral/mental health programs. We decided to seek out the experiences and insights of clinicians through focus groups to find out what sorts of ethical issues they encountered in the outpatient setting. We also wanted to find out if the podcast format would be the best way to meet their educational needs. The focus groups were conducted in the summer of 2013 at the McAuley Center and CHPE. The attendees affirmed that indeed there are a variety of ethical problems in the various outpatient settings represented. Also, the focus group members were interested in podcasts that were relevant to their practice and easy to access when they had



**Amy M. Haddad, PhD, Director of the Center for Health Policy & Ethics**



Visit the website (<http://chpe.creighton.edu/podcasts/AboutUs.html>) to learn more about these podcasts, to listen to a podcast, and to sign up to receive emails announcing new podcasts.



**Mark Goodman and Leslie Kuhnel in the recording studio.**

the time to listen.

We decided to explore how to produce a podcast series and found great help and assistance from colleagues John O’Keefe, Ph.D., and Wendy Wright, Ph.D., members of the Theology Faculty in the Center for Catholic Thought. Drs. O’Keefe and Wright have been producing and hosting the podcast series *Catholic Comments* since 2006. Dr. O’Keefe provided considerable background information on all of the technical aspects of podcast recording and production. He even offered the use of the recording studio in the Humanities Building when it was not in use for *Catholic Comments*. Kate Tworek, MS, CHPE research and instructional technologist, agreed to take on the role of Production Manager for *Bioethics Beyond the Bedside*. The Production Manager is responsible for managing all of the technical aspects of the podcasts including running the recording studio, sound editing, design of the podcast website, and scheduling all of the interviews. Drs. O’Keefe and Wright allowed us to sit in on a live interview for their podcast series so we could see in real time how it was done.

We next needed to settle on the “hosts” of the series and knew we wanted individuals with a balanced perspective, background and interest in ethics, and interesting voices. We didn’t have to look far to find the perfect pair, Mark Goodman, MD, Professor of Family Medicine, Creighton University School of Medicine and Leslie Kuhnel, Director of the Ethics Center at Alegant†Creighton Health. The title of the podcast series was born in a brain storming session over lattes at a neighborhood coffee house. We found Alexander Hamilton, who worked in Creighton’s IT department, is also a composer. He generously provided the theme music, “Mystic Doors,” for the podcasts. We began interviews in late September 2013 and started to build a bank of recorded interviews on a variety of topics and outpatient settings including clinics, pharmacies, rehabilitation, mental health and same-day surgery. The first podcast for *Bioethics Beyond the Bedside* was launched in February 2104. We continue to interview clinicians and others who encounter ethical issues in the outpatient setting so that we can raise awareness regarding their existence and how they might be different from the ethical issues in a hospital setting. We plan to release two new podcasts each month for the foreseeable future.

## *Jesuit Commons: Higher Education at the Margins*

by *Beth Furlong, PhD, JD, RN*

Picture yourself as an individual in a refugee camp, whether it be in eastern Africa, on the Thailand/ Burma border, or in Syria (before the war escalated and your camp is now in Jordan). Picture yourself living there for years, and, sometimes, decades. Now, picture yourself as a transformed individual because you have had the opportunity for education delivered by online courses and with the assistance of refugee campsite coordinators. For the past four years, this has been the blessing of many individuals because of the organization, JC: HEM, partnering with the Jesuit Refugee Services.



**Fr. Mbae Justus, Deputy Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs, Catholic University of Eastern Africa, Nairobi, and Beth Furlong**

In February 2014 Dr. Furlong was appointed to the JC: HEM Curriculum Oversight and Steering Committee. In late March she joined 17 other faculty and academic administrators from around the world for a five day Intensive Working Conference in Madrid, Spain to develop a new infrastructure for the educational program of this organization. Begun in 2009, this program, with its Jesuit Refugee Services partner, recognized the positive impact that could result from the educational medium of online courses being made available to individuals in refugee camps. In the future, other populations, besides refugees, but, also ‘at the margins’, will, additionally benefit from these courses.

Besides working with other global colleagues, other strengths of participation in this Conference included 1) learning directly from two refugee campsite coordinators their assessments of program strengths and challenges, 2) participating in a Conference that incorporated Ignatian pedagogy in the structure of the Conference, and 3) using technology to listen to a refugee site coordinator in Malawi—with its attendant African phone call technical challenges. In particular, this latter event accentuated our sensitivity to the many challenges there are to be met.

The JC: HEM has provided courses in a Certified Service Learning Track and in a diploma (15 three-hour courses). As we developed the infrastructure for a revised curriculum, we kept five concepts at the forefront for the 30 new courses that will be developed, i.e., courses need to be 1) global and not parochial, 2) of high quality, 3) can be assessed for quality improvement, 4) incorporate Ignatian pedagogy, and 5) demonstrate multi-cultural competence. During our work in developing competencies, we utilized the Tuning Process of Europe to enhance the best future transfer of credits for those students who may want to continue their education elsewhere in the world.

The Curriculum infrastructure has been created; the current work being done by the JC: HEM staff is recruitment of faculty to develop and teach the 30 new courses. The 18 of us serving on this Curriculum Committee are utilizing a Blackboard Discussion Forum hosted by Georgetown University to continue the feedback we are expected to give. For example, we are suggesting potential faculty; further, we will be reviewing each of the 30 courses as they are developed and sharing our input via the Discussion Board Forum.

In summary, the JC: HEM has and continues to provide education for some populations ‘at the margins’. Continued private funding will expand this program, both in numbers of new courses and in new populations who will be served.

## *Second Annual Ethics on Trial Event Focuses on Medical Ethics*

*by Amy Haddad, PhD*

The Business Ethics Alliance at Creighton University and the Omaha Scottish Rite collaborated for the second time on an innovative community event to teach ethics to their members and the general public. The idea for “Ethics on Trial” began in 2012 with the aim to utilize the beautiful theater space at the Omaha Scottish Rite Masonic Center as well as to explore complex ethical issues. After meeting with the Business Ethics Alliance Executive Director, Dr. Bev Kracher, the idea developed into a plan to use a courtroom drama to explore a classic moral dilemma involving the tragic decision of saving one life or many lives. Ethics on Trial this past April focused on a medical ethics case involving questions about mandatory bone marrow donation, keeping promises, and informed consent. The goal of Ethics on Trial is to engage the audience in an exploration of ethics in a thought-provoking and realistic manner.

The players for Ethics on Trial this year included: a real judge, prosecuting and defense attorneys, an expert medical witness in bone marrow transplantation, improvisational actors, and Dr. Amy Haddad, Director of CHPE, who played the role of the Ethics Expert. The audience served as the jury and used electronic voting devices to determine whether the defendant’s actions were morally defensible or not. Dr. Haddad led a brief, open discussion after the vote. Approximately 150 attended the event that included viewing several short films about organ donation before the trial.



**Amy M. Haddad and Diane Rochford, Site Manager at Midwest Cancer Clinic, Alegent Creighton Health**



## CHPE Co-Sponsors Screening of Prison Terminal: The Last Days of Private Jack Hall

by Marybeth E. Goddard, MS

On April 1st, the Creighton University Hixson-Lied Auditorium served as the setting for a screening of director Edgar Baren's 2014 Academy Award Nominee for Best Short Documentary, *Prison Terminal: The Last Days of Private Jack Hall*. Approximately 260 individuals attended the free and open to the public screening. The evening was co-sponsored by CHPE; the Department of Journalism, Media, and Computing; and the University Committee on Lectures, Films, and Concerts.

*Prison Terminal: The Last Days of Private Jack Hall* was shot on location at the maximum-security Iowa State Penitentiary in Fort Madison, Iowa, and centers on a prison hospice program staffed by inmate volunteers. During the film, the audience is introduced to Jack Hall, a prison inmate and World War II veteran, and the prison volunteers who care for Jack in the last weeks of his life. The film provides a fascinating and often poignant account of how the hospice experience can profoundly touch even the forsaken lives of the incarcerated.

Immediately after the screening, a panel discussion took place that included filmmaker Edgar Baren, MFA; CHPE Faculty Member, Helen Chapple, PhD; and Vice President of Hospice, Palliative Care and Pharmacy for the Visiting Nurse Association, Joanie Kush, RN, MS, CHA. During the discussion, Mr. Baren stated that of the current 75 prison hospice programs, only a handful of the facilities have taken the risk to incorporate prisoners as hospice volunteers. He said,

“...and, almost without exception, the risk has paid back ten-fold by the rehabilitative nature of hospice. The program has allowed the prisoners, many for the first time in their lives, to show compassion, love, and respect for a fellow human being.”

The goal of *Prison Terminal*, Mr. Baren told a mesmerized audience, is to assist in making prison-based, prisoner-run hospice services the national standard throughout the United States correctional system, ensuring that prisoners no longer have to die alone, far away from their loved ones.

For more information about Edgar Baren and his film, *Prison Terminal: The Last Days of Private Jack Hall*, please visit: <http://www.prisonterminal.com/prison-terminal-news.html>



Amy Haddad, Tim Guthrie (the event's Moderator, from Creighton's Department of Journalism, Media, and Computing), and filmmaker Edgar Baren

*Former CHPE Senior Visiting Fellow Dr. Henk ten Have Delivers School of Medicine Distinguished Lecture  
by Jos Welie, PhD*

On Wednesday April 16, Dr. Henk ten Have, Director of the Center for Healthcare Ethics at Duquesne University in Pittsburgh, PA, presented one of the six 2013-14 School of Medicine Distinguished Lectures. This particular lecture was jointly sponsored by Creighton University's Center for Health Policy and Ethics, the Department of Medicine, and the Health Sciences Continuing Education division. Ten Have studied medicine and philosophy at Leiden University, the Netherlands. After serving two decades in different academic capacities, from 2003 to 2010 he served as director of UNESCO's Division of Ethics of Science and Technology in Paris, France. This was not the first time Ten Have visited CU. In 2001, he spent three months at CHPE as a Senior Visiting Fellow.



**Jos Welie and Henk ten Have**

This time, Dr. Ten Have's visit to CU was much shorter, consisting of two main events. On the evening prior to his keynote, Ten Have kindly agreed to meet with the medical students who are part of Project CURA. This student-run association serves primarily to provide health education and primary prevention for underserved and minority populations of Omaha and eastern Nebraska, but also organizes service trips abroad for medical students between their freshman and sophomore years. Rallied by CURA's energetic president, first year medical student Jocelyn Wu, some eighty students attended, mostly from the CU School of Medicine, but with additional representation from the College of Nursing and the College of Arts and Sciences. More than a dozen faculty and staff members facilitated the table discussions.

As these freshmen medical students are preparing for their service trips to a variety of different countries, including Romania, Ghana, India, and Ecuador, Ten Have prodded students to think about the broader picture. For example: What are the most efficient health care systems in the world and what criteria should be used to make that determination? To explain the differences between a country such as the United States, which spends the most but is actually very ineffective (#46 on the global list), and much higher ranked countries such as Ecuador (#20), Ten Have pointed to the underlying value systems. Which does the country value more: The individual or the community? Cooperation or competition? And does it view health care as a commodity or as a basic good? But he also encouraged students to look at the commonalities. What concerns do people in different countries have in common, what ethical principles do we all share? This, then, led to a review of the Universal Declaration on Bioethics and Human Rights, adopted by the UNESCO in 2005. Whereas prevailing American bioethics promotes only four bioethical core principles (Respect for patient autonomy, Beneficence, Non-maleficence, and Justice), this declaration identifies 15 such principles. Some of these 15 can be viewed as specifications of the former four, but others are certainly novel, such as Respect for cultural diversity and pluralism, Solidarity and cooperation, Social responsibility and health, Protecting future generations, and Protection of the environment, the biosphere and biodiversity. Such an expanded focus of reflection also enables the development of a global bioethics, which was the main theme of Ten Have's keynote lecture on April 16.

Dr. Ten Have's presentation was entitled "Vulnerability: Challenges to bioethics in a global context." He began by acknowledging that vulnerability as a bioethical principle is a relative newcomer. While the notion surfaces in the famous Belmont Report from 1979 and in several other guidelines on the ethics of bioethical research since, it was only acknowledged as a full-fledged principle of bioethics in the aforementioned UNESCO declaration from 2005: "In applying and advancing scientific knowledge, medical practice and associated technologies, human vulnerability should be taken into account. Individuals and groups of special vulnerability should be protected and the personal integrity of such individuals respected." Ten Have analyzed

this new ethical notion, using both a philosophical and a political perspective, and then moved to a discussion of vulnerability as phenomenon of globalization.

**Related websites:**

Those interested in the details of Ten Have's Distinguished Lecture can find a streamed version at the following URL: <http://bluecast.creighton.edu/Panopto/Pages/Viewer/Default.aspx?id=61cf0eb2-538e-4a40-b727-f0d7451cf3b7>

*Focus* readers interested in still more material on global bioethics may want to peruse the new Handbook of Global Bioethics, co-edited by Henk ten Have: <http://link.springer.com/referencework/10.1007%2F978-94-007-2512-6>



## *Preventing Deaths from Cancer Health Disparities: Dr. Edward Partridge and the Deep South Network for Cancer Control*

*by John R. Stone, MD, PhD*

Daily, 600 cancer deaths could be prevented in the United States if populations experiencing health disparities accessed the available high quality screening and treatment that other groups receive.

How to eliminate these 600 deaths was the topic of Dr. Partridge's SOM Distinguished Lecture and the discussion during a brunch hosted by the Center for Health Policy & Ethics. In both settings, Dr. Partridge told how he and colleagues decided to focus on cancer health disparities and what followed.

Dr. Partridge is Director of the University of Alabama-Birmingham Comprehensive Cancer Center (UAB-CCC) that includes over 300 clinicians, researchers, and others. He has served on the Board and as president of the American Cancer Society. Most pertinent to his lecture and the brunch discussion is his experience as Principal Investigator of the Deep South Center for Cancer Control, funded by the NIH National Cancer Institute and now in its 13th year.



**Amy Haddad, Ed Partridge, John Stone**

In a gripping narrative, Dr. Partridge related that during a retreat in the early 1990s, UAB-CCC personnel reviewed emerging health disparities in cancer deaths and morbidity that was especially afflicting African Americans in Alabama and Mississippi. Retreat participants decided that addressing these disparities was of the highest moral urgency. In the ensuing 20+ years, Dr. Partridge and colleagues have had remarkable success in efforts to reduce cancer deaths, improve cancer survivorship, and increase minority participation in clinical trials. The core mechanism has been Deep South Center for Cancer Control.

The story includes three features. First, personnel of UAB-CCC spent several years developing relationships with key community members of counties in the Alabama "Black Belt" (known for rich black soil) and the Mississippi Delta. As Dr. Partridge discussed in some detail, key elements here were creating trust, eliminating bias, and sharing power. Second, over 1300 lay community health advisors were trained through the years with some 550 still in active service. Their initial tasks promoted breast and cervical cancer screening and follow through to treatment and survivorship. Later efforts have targeted other cancers, and assistance throughout cancer experiences to palliative and hospice care. Recruitment and navigation regarding cancer clinical trials has been another feature. The outcomes in reducing related disparities have been striking. Third, bioethics has had a central role throughout. Dr. Partridge several times emphasized the importance of social justice as the grounding for addressing health disparities. And the National Center for Bioethics in Research and Health Care at Tuskegee University has been a vital part of these cancer disparities efforts. Bioethics is part of the training of the community health advisors and periodically for collaborating investigators and personnel. Also, the Tuskegee Bioethics Center has played a vital continuing role in addressing how ethical concerns like respect and justice should be addressed in the programs. (This author had a central role in those bioethical endeavors during his seven years with the Tuskegee Bioethics Center.) Dr. Partridge emphasized the correlation between having a college education and the absence of cancer health disparities regardless of race/ethnicity.

Readers should be aware that our Center for Health Policy & Ethics has a major focus on health disparities, social justice, and vulnerable populations—major foci in our Master of Science degree in Health Care Ethics. Also, we have engaged in collaborative projects with Omaha African American breast cancer survivors and

Ms. Jackie Hill of My Sisters' Keeper to help these women through their post-diagnosis experiences. Further, the author is Co-Executive Director of Creighton University's Center for Promoting Health and Health Equality, a community-academic collaboration that targets elimination of health disparities.

#### Related websites:

Dr. Partridge's Web Page: [http://www3.ccc.uab.edu/index.php?option=com\\_content&id=149:edward-e-partridge-md&Itemid=64](http://www3.ccc.uab.edu/index.php?option=com_content&id=149:edward-e-partridge-md&Itemid=64)

UAB Minority Health & Health Disparities Research Center: <http://www.uabmhrc.com/>

#### Personnel News

*by Marybeth E. Goddard, MS*

#### **Helen Chapple, PhD, Appointed as a Wiley Deltak Founding Faculty Fellow**

CHPE faculty member, Helen Chapple, PhD, was recently appointed as a Wiley Deltak Founding Faculty Fellow. The Wiley Deltak Faculty Fellows initiative aims to foster a community of practice among Wiley Deltak partners that focuses on innovative teaching and learning, while, at the same time, honoring the outstanding educators in their partner programs—of which, the Master in Health Care Ethics is one. As a Founding Faculty Fellow, Dr. Chapple is one of only 12 educators nationwide selected for this honor. Dr. Chapple was selected because of her distinguished record of accomplishment in her profession and her enthusiasm for new pedagogical and technological approaches to online learning.

As a Wiley Deltak Fellow, Dr. Chapple will have the opportunity to engage with the other Faculty Fellows to share online teaching experiences, be exposed to new teaching and learning ideas, and participate in Wiley Deltak conferences and workshops.

Congratulations, Dr. Chapple!

#### **CHPE Faculty Associates Promoted**

Please join the Center in congratulating CHPE Faculty Associates on their recent promotion:

- Mark Goodman, MD – Promotion in the School of Medicine to Professor of Family Medicine
- Robert Sandstrom, PhD – Promotion in the School of Pharmacy and Health Professions to Professor of Physical Therapy

*2014 Graduates – MS in Health Care Ethics*

May 2014 Graduates

**Cheyenne Brown**, Salt Lake City, UT  
**Marcia Dahlgren**, Westminster, CO\*  
**Sara (Coolman) Frizzell**, Bassett, NE  
**Kristin Gigon**, Philomath, OR\*  
**Carole Hemmelgarn**, Highlands Ranch, CO\*  
**Diane Mack**, Fort Thomas, KY  
**Christine Redding-Wagner**, Mason, OH\*  
**William Robertson**, Texarkana, AR\*  
**Tim Roettger**, O’Fallon, MO  
**Robert Thomas**, Winter Haven, FL  
**Dennis Trimboli**, Flossmoor, IL  
**Denise Warner**, Roslindale, MA

August 2014 Graduates (anticipated)

**Deborah Boucher-Payne**, Council Bluffs, IA  
**Christina Erickson**, Oakland, CA  
**Lisa Flynn**, Grosse Pointe Park, MI  
**Kayte Fulton**, Denver, CO  
**Lynda Hernandez**, Anchorage, AK  
**Cleta Lorenz**, Kansas City, MO\*  
**Mark McGann**, San Bruno, CA  
**Alfred Obiudu**, Clarksburg, WV  
**Albert Quiery**, Ann Arbor, MI  
**Bobby Saunkeah**, Ada, OK  
**Jonathan Shoeholz**, Grovetown, GA  
**James Stewart**, Reno, NV

\*In attendance for Commencement Activities



*Kristin Gigon, Cleta Lorenz, Marcia Dahlgren, Carole Hemmelgarn, William Robertson, and Chris Redding-Wagner*

Graduation activities were held the weekend of May 16-18, 2014. Several MSHCE graduates took part in the Graduate School Hooding Ceremony on Friday evening, the MS in Health Care Ethics Graduation Brunch on Saturday morning hosted by the Center, and University Commencement on Saturday afternoon.

We asked graduates of our MSHCE program to keep us posted on their new ventures. Here's what we've heard . . .

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### **Academic Pursuits**

**Sara Oxley** (*May 2012 Graduate*) began her MS in Nursing at the University of South Florida last fall. With a specialization to become a Family Nurse Practitioner, she anticipates on graduating in May 2016. Meanwhile, she continues to work at Dr. Phillips Hospital as a Registered Nurse in the Emergency Department.

### **Committee Appointments**

**Tim Cotita** (*May 2013 Graduate*) was appointed by Louisiana Governor Bobby Jindal to serve on the Louisiana State Board of Nursing. He was selected to serve on the American Nurses Association Advisory Group to Review the Revisions to the Code of Ethics for Nurses. Additionally, Tim was also elected president-elect of the Lamda Mu Chapter of Sigma Theta Tau International Honor Society of Nursing. He serves as an ethics consultant, ethics committee member, and leader of the ethics consultation team for St. Francis Medical Center in Monroe, Louisiana.

**Marc Herman** (*December 2013 Graduate*) was appointed to the Bioethics Committee at North Shore University Hospital/Long Island Jewish Medical Center.

**Mary E. (Mary Beth) Jones** (*August 2013 Graduate*) was appointed to the Clark County Public Health Ethics Committee, an advisory committee to the Health Department for Clark County, Washington.

**Kenelm McCormick** (*May 2011 Graduate*) was named co-chair of the Medina Hospital's Ethics Committee and a member of its Ethics Consultation Team. Medina Hospital is a Cleveland Clinic community hospital. Dr. McCormick also serves as chair of the Summa Wadsworth Rittman Hospital's Ethics Committee and as a member of the Summa Barberton Hospital's Ethics Committee.

### **Positions and Promotions**

**John Davis** (*August 2011 Graduate*) accepted a graduate teaching assistant position for the 2013-14 academic year in the philosophy department at Colorado State University, where he is an MA candidate with a focused study on moral epistemology and the philosophy of science.

**Mary Homan** (*August 2013 Graduate*) was hired January 2013 as *Director of Ethics* for Mercy West Communities in Oklahoma. In this position, Mary provides leadership for the clinical ethics service through consultation, education, and policy development for three tertiary-care hospitals and seven critical access hospitals.

**Mary E. (Mary Beth) Jones** (*August 2013 Graduate*) accepted a position as Medical Program Director for Clinical Ethics for Legacy Health System, which is based in Portland, Oregon.

### **Presentations & Speaking Engagements**

**Mary Homan** (*August 2013 Graduate*) presented "Addressing the Problem of Preterm Births with a Preferential Option for the Poor" at the American Society for Bioethics and the Humanities (ASBH) 2013

Annual Meeting last October. You can learn more about ASBH by visiting their site at <http://www.asbh.org/>.

**Cara Voelliger** (*August 2013 Graduate*) co-presented with Dr. Shammass at the Cardiovascular Interventions and Guidelines Practice conference last October on her obesity practicum project as a student in the MS in Health Care Ethics program. The goals of the practicum project were to conduct an in-depth analysis of resources available to the obese population in the Quad City community and a survey analysis of the clinician response to the obesity epidemic in which data were gathered to determine how best to serve this vulnerable population.

**Leslie Kuhnel** (*May 2013 Graduate*) presented at the 2014 International Conference for Clinical Ethics Consultation at Paris Descartes University in April. Her presentation, “Representing the Voices of Unrepresented Persons”, was part of “The Voiceless Patient” session. During her talk, she explored the challenges related to treating unrepresented patients without decision-making capacity, and shared her particular organization’s proposed approach for addressing this dilemma. Kuhnel is the Director of the Alegent Creighton Health Ethics Center in Omaha, NE.



**FOCUS Editor: Amy Haddad, PhD; Associate Editor: Kate Tworek, MSEd**