
Ethics Codes

Nuremberg code: <http://ohrp.osophs.dhhs.gov/references/nurcode.htm>

Belmont Report: <http://ohrp.osophs.dhhs.gov/humansubjects/guidance/belmont.htm>

Declaration of Helsinki: http://www.wma.net/e/policy/17-c_e.html

Common Terms

Competence and Capacity
Undue Inducement
Extraordinary Measures
Altered Standards of Care
Informed Consent
Surrogate Decision Maker
Doctrine of Double Effect

Recommended Reading List

Ethical Issues in Modern Medicine

Bonnie Steinbock and John Arras

Principles of Bioethics

Tom Beauchamp, James Childress

The Birth of Bioethics

Al Jonsen

Just Health

Norman Daniels

What do bioethicists discuss?

Neuroethics

Should Adderral be permitted for the purpose of cognitive enhancement?

Public Health Ethics

How should vaccines be rationed during pandemics? Are we responsible for the health of individuals in third-world countries?

Physical Enhancement

Should athletes be allowed to use steroids while competing?

Allocation of Scarce Resources

What criteria should be used to make fair waiting lists for hearts and kidneys?

Healthcare Reform

Should we create a broader national health care system? Should there be an upper age limit for receiving treatment?

Reproductive Ethics

Should commercial surrogacy be legal? Should widows be able to use their husbands' frozen sperm?

End of Life Care

Should other states adopted the assisted suicide programs currently in effect in Oregon and Washington?

Research Ethics

Most research subjects are middle-aged white males. Should guidelines be used to ensure the representation of other populations? What are the obligations of pharmaceutical companies conducting research in third world countries?

Animal Ethics

Do animals have the same moral status as humans?

Physician-Patient Relationship

When should a physician be allowed to exercise conscientious objection? When can a physician give a patient treatment against their will?

Pediatric Ethics

Should parents be allowed to conceive "savior siblings"- children designed to serve as a matching donor for their sibling? Should parents be required to give their children

Philosophical Schools of Thought

Consequentialism

Deontology and Kantian Ethics

Teleology

Rights-based

Social Contract Theories

Distributive Justice

Rule and Act Utilitarianism



A Introduction to Bioethics at Penn

Please visit us:

www.dophin.upenn.edu/bioethic/

www.bioethicsjournal.com

PBS Events

Formal Semi-Annual Events

Signature Event- Each semester the society organizes one large event aimed at a broad audience. Often the event involves the collaboration of other student groups **Penn-Princeton Bioethics Dinner-** A group of students from Penn and Princeton, along with professors from both schools, get together to debate a topic over dinner.

Journal Launch Event- At the launch event, the finished journal is distributed to the public. Each semester, the launch is unique, but often involves a lecture by a Penn faculty member or visiting scholar.

Speakers - We have speakers from other institutions or Penn address students about current issues or other topics in bioethics.

Casual Gatherings and Discussions

Faculty Lunches- Each month, a small group of students meets with different faculty members from the Penn Bioethics Center to discuss bioethics over a free gourmet lunch at the Penn Faculty Club.

Bi-weekly Lunches in Houston Hall- Students get together at Houston Hall to casually discuss ethical issues. This gives members the opportunity to socialize and stay up to date on bioethics in the news.

Social Events, Movie Nights, and Case Discussions- The Society organizes a wide variety of social events, including restaurant outings and movie nights. We also enjoy promote casual conversation about clinical cases at the General Body Meetings.

Conferences and Collaborations

National Undergraduate Bioethics Conference (NUBC)- PBS members attend the annual undergraduate conference which is held at a different university each year. Students have the opportunity to make presentations of their own and attend lectures and seminars led by prominent scholars.

Collaboration with the Penn Bioethics Centers- Everyone is encouraged to attend the public lecture series organized by the Penn Bioethics Center. Topics and dates can be found here: <http://www.bioethics.upenn.edu/colloquium/?pageId=1>

Co-sponsored events- As an interdisciplinary organization, PBS encourages collaboration between student groups.

ASBH-American Society for Bioethics and Humanities. Annual professional conference for bioethicists.

Penn Bioethics Society

The Penn Bioethics Society (PBS) is comprised of a group of undergraduate students at the University of Pennsylvania dedicated to broadening the discussion of medicine, biotechnology, philosophy, health care, and ethics. We seek to raise awareness of ethical issues by participating in, and creating outlets for, discussion and education. In particular, we publish the Penn Bioethics Journal as the nation's premier peer-reviewed undergraduate bioethics journal furthering recognition of outstanding contributions from an international population of undergraduate students. Additionally, we focus on expanding boundaries of Penn undergraduates by hosting campus-wide events including formal lectures, case study presentations, public debates, debriefing of current bioethical issues and casual student led conversations. The Society creates a dynamic and inclusive environment to gain pertinent and timely information on bioethical issues at the University of Pennsylvania.

To find out about weekly student lunches, faculty lunches, meetings, and more about the undergraduate Penn Bioethics Society & Journal (PBS/J) please visit our websites.

Penn Bioethics Websites:

www.dophin.upenn.edu/bioethic/
www.bioethicsjournal.com

To be added onto the listserv and to receive our weekly newsletter, apply to join our editorial staff or with any questions, please e-mail penn.bioethics.society@gmail.com.



Penn Bioethics Journal

The Penn Bioethics Journal (PBJ) is the nation's premier peer-reviewed, undergraduate bioethics journal. Established in 2004, the Journal features and provides a venue for the contributions of undergraduates to the field of bioethics. PBJ, embracing the interdisciplinary focus of bioethics, reviews and publishes reports of empirical research and analysis of previous work --addressing debates in medicine, technology, philosophy, public policy, law, theology and ethics among others. The biannual Journal additionally features news briefs and editorials reviewing current bioethical issues, as summarized by our undergraduate editorial staff. Undergraduate editors and authors have a unique opportunity to get involved with the peer-review process through the collaborative and rigorous review and preparation of PBJ. With an audience ranging from top contributors to the field to a broader public seeking unbiased information, the Penn Bioethics Journal scholastically involves all undergraduates interested in the extensive field of bioethics.

The editorial staff also focuses on expanding boundaries of Penn undergraduates by hosting campus-wide events through the Penn Bioethics Society. These include formal lectures, case study presentations, public debates, debriefing of current bioethical issues and casual student led conversations.

Archived editions of the Journal and information on the submissions process can be found on our website: <http://bioethicsjournal.com>

PBJ Editing Process

Selection

The editors read all of the papers that have been submitted and then gather in clusters of five or six to discuss the merits of each. Papers are either accepted, accepted with conditions, or rejected.

Final decisions are made according to majority vote at the general body meetings. Afterward, managing editors mail the decisions and conditions to the authors and guide them through the revision process.

Editing

A panel of editors copy-edits the revised papers, news briefs, and editorials for minor grammatical, referencing, and syntax errors.

Layout

After the editing has been completed, a publishing team formats and lays out the new issue which is sent to the printer.