The University of Miami Ethics Programs foster and support a range of efforts dedicated to education, research, and community service in ethics and the professions. We do this by developing and supporting a variety of courses, conferences, research projects, seminars, and other activities around the University of Miami and with regional, national and global partners.

Many of these activities are made possible by a gift from philanthropist and UM Trustee Adrienne Arsht.

UM Ethics Programs, FBN Set 22nd Annual Conference

Friday, April 4, 2014
Miami Marriott Biscayne Bay

The University of Miami Ethics Programs will host its 22nd annual spring conference in conjunction with the Florida Bioethics Network on Friday, April 4, 2014, at the Miami Marriott Biscayne Bay, 1633 North Bayshore Drive.

To view the conference program and register, please click here.

This educational program - perhaps the country's oldest and largest community bioethics conference - will feature presentations on recent brain death controversies, military medicine, pediatric health disparities, concussion and sports, the Affordable Care Act and professionalism in healthcare.

The conference is approved for continuing education credits for physicians, nurses, psychologists, social workers, attorneys and chaplains.

The conference is made possible with the support of leading regional hospitals and other health care institutions which have identified professional development in ethics as an essential component of high-quality practice. These include UHealth, including University of Miami Hospital, Sylvester Comprehensive Cancer Center and University of Miami Hospitals and Clinics; Jackson Health System; the Veterans Affairs Medical Center in Miami, and the Collaborative Institutional Training Initiative (CITI).

UM and Public Health Trust employees attend without charge but must register online.

Please contact 305-243-5723 or ethics@miami.edu to obtain your complimentary registration code or for additional information.
Ethics Programs
Co-sponsor
"We Robot 2014"

Friday, April 4, 2014
Newman Alumni Center
Coral Gables Campus

The University of Miami School of Law will host the 3rd annual We Robot conference. The program, held last year at Stanford University, will address legal and policy issues in robotics, an increasingly timely topic as the use of robots spreads from homes to hospitals to public spaces.

Learn more.

For more information, please contact robots@law.miami.edu or call 305-284-6276.

2014 Miami Kant Conference

Friday, April 4, 2014
Student Activities Center and University Center
Coral Gables Campus

The Department of Philosophy is hosting another in its series of conferences on the work of Immanuel Kant. The workshop-style setting will feature presentations by some of the leading young Kant scholars in the United States and Europe. Papers presented at the conference will be published as a collection of essays, On the Sensible and Intelligible Worlds: New Essays on Kant's Metaphysics and Epistemology, by Oxford University Press. The volume is to be co-edited by Karl Schafer of the University of Pittsburgh and Nick Stang of UM's Philosophy Department.

Because of Kant's essential work in ethics and moral philosophy, the Ethics Programs are co-sponsoring the event in conjunction with the Department of Philosophy, the Office of the Provost, the College of Arts & Sciences and the Graduate School.

Learn more.

For more information, please contact Nick Stang nick.stang@gmail.com or Sarah Beth Lesson sarahlesson@gmail.com
Undergrads Head to Chicago for National Bioethics Bowl

Saturday, April 5, 2014
Loyola University
Chicago, Illinois

Building on the Ethics Bowl program and motivated by student interest in bioethics, the UM Ethics Society has been a regular participant in the National Bioethics Bowl, held in conjunction with the National Undergraduate Bioethics Conference, sponsored in part by the American Society for Bioethics and the Humanities. The theme for this year's conference is "Morals and Medicine: The Ethics of Becoming a Health Care Professional."

This year, a team of five undergraduate students and a coach will represent the University of Miami at the Competition on Saturday. The team's coach is Dr. Brad Cokelet, a faculty member in UM's Philosophy Department. UM placed second in 2008 at Union College and 2009 at Harvard University.

Learn more.

UM Bioethics Bowl Team

Vedant Acharya
Alex Blaznik
Brad Cokelet - Bowl Coach
Deividas Gustainis
Emilee Lau
Kassandra Samuel

For more information, please contact Ethics Programs at ethics@miami.edu or call 305-243-5723.

Ethics and Nephrology

Friday, April 18, 2014
12 p.m. - 1 p.m.
Biomedical Research Building, Room 810
Medical Campus

UM ethics faculty member Dr. Raul E. de Velasco will lead a session on ethics and nephrology for fellows in the Nephrology Fellowship Training Program. He will use a case-based approach for his presentation.

Dr. de Velasco, a Voluntary Associate Professor of Medicine, received his medical degree from the UM School of Medicine and interned at Jackson Memorial Hospital. He then joined the Indian Division of the Public Health Service where he served two years as a medical officer in the Zuni and Navajo reservations. Returning to Miami, he completed his internal medicine residency and nephrology fellowship in Jackson and Veterans Affairs programs. He is board certified in internal medicine and nephrology. Dr. de Velasco also chairs the Baptist Health System Bioethics Committee and the Clinical Ethics Committee at Baptist Hospital of South Florida.
UM's Pan American Bioethics Initiative to Host Washington Workshop

Thursday, May 1, 2014
Pan American Health Organization
Washington, DC

The Pan American Bioethics Initiative (PABI) will conclude its Fogarty International Center grant with a special workshop at the Pan American Health Organization in Washington, D.C.

The overarching goal of PABI has been to stimulate efforts to foster human subjects protection, research integrity and the responsible conduct of research by challenging and working with decision leaders and policy architects who have practical responsibility for the development and/or oversight of research ethics programs in Latin American and the Caribbean. Content developed by fellows and faculty have been posted on the CITI Program website.

North American scholars have been working in bioethics in various ways with South American and Caribbean counterparts for decades. While there is evidence that these exchanges have been symbiotic and mutually useful, there remain legitimate questions about methods, assessment and planning. This workshop is intended to address these challenges.

The PABI grant (R25TW008186) is led by Drs. Kenneth W. Goodman and Paul Braunschweiger; Dr. Sergio Litewka is Project Director. For more information, please contact Dr. Litewka at slitewka@med.miami.edu or call 305-243-5723.

In the News

Students Excel in First Bioethics Debate

UM has added to its portfolio of undergraduate ethics debate opportunities with the new Bioethics Bowl. Patterned after the national competition by that name (see item above), students formed six teams and debated a variety of issues in contemporary healthcare ethics, including organ transplant tourism and the adoption of children.

Launched on Sunday, March 30, the UM Bioethics Bowl included two preliminary rounds and a final match-up in the classrooms at the Mahoney and Pearson Residential Colleges. The winning team, pictured here: Elliot Pressman, Nick Seigel, Robbie Diaz, Jillian Tancil and Michael Stepanski.
Judges came from across the university and represented the College of Arts & Sciences, the Miller School of Medicine and the School of Nursing and Health Studies: Douglas Anderson, Brad Cokelet, Ken Goodman, Mary Hooshmand, Danielle Houck, Susan Leary, Ted Locke, Phillip Schwind and Ben Yelle.

Learn more.

For more information, contact Christine Sinicrope, Ethics Society President at umethicssociety@gmail.com