**Bioethics Intensive Course Agenda**

April 8-12, 2024

PLEASE NOTE TIMES BELOW ARE CENTRAL STANDARD TIME (CST)

Monday, April 8, 2024

*Houston Methodist Research Institute*

10:30 a.m. **Event Check-in**

11:15 a.m. **Welcoming Remarks and Course Introduction**

*Janet Malek, PhD*

11:30 a.m. **Opening Session: Case Improvisation**

 *Ryan Dougherty, PhD*

12:15 p.m. **Lunch**

1:00 p.m. **Setting the Scene**

*Janet Malek, PhD*

A brief history of the field of bioethics and description of its current state will be presented in this session.

1:45 p.m. **Break**

2:00 p.m. **The Ethics Work-Up**

*Janet Malek, PhD*

The Ethics Work-Up, developed by Center faculty, is a structured tool that is intended to stimulate moral and self-reflection and to provide intellectual structure and practical guidance to the responsible management of ethical challenges in clinical care.

3:15 p.m. **Break**

3:30 p.m. **Small Group Case Discussions (breakout rooms)**

5:00 p.m. **End of Day**

Tuesday, April 9, 2024

*Houston Methodist Research Institute*

8:00 a.m. **Breakfast**

8:30 a.m. **Informed Consent and Shared Decision Making**

*Ryan Dougherty, PhD*

This session will cover consent requirements and challenges, shared decision making, tools for assessing decision-making capacity in tough cases, and cognitive biases that can affect decision making.

9:45 a.m. **Break**

10:00 a.m. **Small Group Case Discussions (breakout rooms)**

11:00 a.m. **Break**

11:15 a.m. **Surrogate Decision Making**

*Joanna Smolenski, PhD*

This session will cover the ethical importance of surrogates, the standards of surrogate decision making, and challenges related to making medical decisions for incapacitated patients.

12:15 p.m. **Lunch**

1:15 p.m. **End-of-Life Decision Making: Medical Facts and Patient Preferences**

*Holland Kaplan*

The session will cover several critical aspects of end-of-life decision making including withholding and withdrawing treatment, medically inappropriate treatment, DNAR orders, and advance directives.

2:30 p.m. **Break**

2:45 p.m. **Small Group Case Discussions (breakout rooms)**

3:45 p.m. **End of Day**

Wednesday, April 10, 2024

*Houston Methodist Research Institute*

8:00 a.m. **Breakfast**

8:30 a.m. **How to Conduct a Clinical Ethics Consultation**

*Trevor Bibler, PhD*

Participants will learn the practical steps involved in conducting a clinical ethics consultation, with a focus on processes including information gathering and issue spotting.

9:30 a.m. **Break**

9:45 a.m. **How to Conduct a Clinical Ethics Consultation (continued)**

10:30 a.m. **Break**

10:45 a.m. **Mediation and Facilitating Family Meetings**

*Claire Horner, JD, MA*

Effectively leading or assisting with family meetings is a critical skill for clinical ethics consultants. When, why, and how to conduct a family meeting will be discussed in this session, along with mediation skills and techniques.

12:00pm **Lunch**

1:00 p.m. **Case Conversation/Role Play**

*Janet Malek, PhD, Claire Horner, JD, MA*

This session offers participants the opportunity to apply ethical concepts, consultation approaches, and facilitation techniques that have been covered thus far in the course in a realistic case scenario.

2:15 p.m. **Break**

2:30 p.m. **How to Write an Ethics Consulation Note**

*Adam Omelianchuck, PhD, Claire Horner, JD, MA*

Participants will learn how to write a high-quality ethics chart note. Using small groups, participants will deconstruct several exemplar ethics chart notes, identifying strong and weak ethics chart notes. Essential elements of the chart note, best practices, language to avoid, and how to write strong ethical analyses within chart notes will be discussed.

4:00 p.m. **End of Day**

Thursday, April 11, 2024

*Houston Methodist Research Institute*

8:00 a.m. **Breakfast**

8:30 a.m. **Quality Improvement**

*Janet Malek, PhD*

During this session, several different types of quality improvement strategies that ethics consultants and ethics consultation services or ethics committees can use to describe and evaluate their consultations will be described.

9:15 a.m. **Professionalizing Clinical Ethics Consultation**

*Claire Horner, JD, MA*

The current movement toward professionalization of clinical ethics consultation and the Healthcare Ethics Consultant Certification process will be reviewed.

10:15 a.m. **Break**

10:30 a.m. **Institutional Context: Developing Collaborations and Creating a Committee**

*Janet Malek, PhD*

This session will consider how an ethics committee can be created to align with institutional values, promote collaboration, and meet the needs of the institution.

11:15 a.m. **Policy Development**

*Claire Horner, JD, MA*

This session will provide general guidance on drafting and implementing ethics policies, plus an opportunity to solicit specific feedback on your own policy challenges.

12:15 p.m. **Lunch**

1:15 p.m. **Breakout Sessions I**

*Clinical Ethics Team*

* Pediatrics
* Responding to Religious Reasoning

2:15 p.m. **Break**

2:30 p.m. **Breakout Sessions II**

*Clinical Ethics Team*

* Futility
* Moral Distress and Burnout
* Abortion/Reproductive Ethics

3:30 p.m. **Workshop Preparation**

3:45 p.m. **End of Day**

Friday, April 12, 2024

*Houston Methodist Research Institute*

8:30 a.m. **Workshop (working breakfast)**

*Clinical Ethics Team*

9:30 a.m. **Break**

9:45 a.m. **Capstone Case – Role Play (breakout rooms)**

*Clinical Ethics Team*

11:00 a.m. **Break**

11:15 a.m. **Question and Answer Session**

*Clinical Ethics Team*

Participants will have the opportunity to ask a panel of course faculty questions about any of the course topics, including the HEC-C exam, consultative processes, and ethical foundations.

12:00 p.m. **Conclusion of Course**