Greetings from the Co-Directors

CBSSM continues our core mission to provide an interdisciplinary home for researchers with multiple perspectives on health decision making and bioethics.

CBSSM continues to attract scholars from across departmental and disciplinary boundaries. In this newsletter, we spotlight Darin Zahuranec, MD and his work related to end-of-life decision making in the case of Intracerebral Hemorrhage (page 3). We also welcome Yong Li, PhD, our visiting scholar from Nanjing Medical University, China (page 2).

The training of future researchers continues to be a core goal of CBSSM. Current post-doctoral fellow Michele Gornick (page 2) and Melissa Constantine contribute to ongoing CBSSM research projects and are establishing their own research agendas. CBSSM is currently accepting fellowship applications for 2013-14 (page 6).

CBSSM continues to promote policy discussions and public outreach activities by sponsoring various events, such as the Bishop Lecture in Bioethics and its biweekly seminar series (page 5). CBSSM-affiliated faculty have also been heavily represented in national meetings related to medical decision making and bioethics (page 7). In this newsletter, you also will find a selection of other notable faculty highlights (page 8) and publications (page 9).

CBSSM has also experienced some exciting changes. In June, we moved to the North Campus Research Complex (NCRC). We are located in Building 16. If you haven’t had an opportunity to attend one of our events in our new location, we hope you come and visit us soon!

We are delighted to have Valerie Kahn on board as our new Center Manager. Valerie joined CBSSM in 2009 and she brings her previous experience as a Project Manager to her new role. Kerry Ryan is our new Public Relations and Event Planning Coordinator. Please contact Kerry (kryanz@med.umich.edu) for any events or announcements you would like to share with the Center.

Finally, keep an eye out for the new CBSSM website to be unveiled later this Fall 2012!
Michele Gornick, PhD, has come to the VA and CBSSM to pursue her interest in translational medicine, specifically dealing with issues surrounding communicating genomic information to patients, physicians, and other health care providers.

Dr. Gornick received her PhD in Human Genetics at the University of Michigan in December of 2011, as well as a Master’s degree in Statistics. Her background training is in familial cancer genetics, with a focus on using quantitative methods to better understand disease susceptibility using genomic data.

She is working on several projects at the VA and CBSSM including a project dealing with patient perceptions of risks associated with genetic tests for colorectal cancer at the VA hospital with Angie Fagerlin and Brian Zikmund-Fisher, as well as a study looking at ethical issues surrounding clinical genome sequencing in cancer patients as part of the MI-OncoSeq study with Scott Kim and Scott Roberts.

Dr. Gornick likes to spend as much time as possible outdoors biking, running, and hiking. She has also practiced yoga for over 10 years, enjoys reading biographies, listening to a wide range of music and watching documentaries.

CBSSM is pleased to welcome visiting scholar Yong Li, PhD to Ann Arbor for the 2012-2013 academic year.

Dr. Li is the Director of The Center for Bioethics and Health Law, School of Health Policy and Management, at Nanjing Medical University. Dr. Li earned a PhD at Nanjing University in China. His research interests focus on the doctor-patient relationship, research ethics, and healthcare policy and law.

During his time at CBSSM, Dr. Li plans to study the ethical operation of the American medical system, examining the trust between patients and doctors, as well as the design of health policy, health law, and bioethics education. He also will be working on a book tentatively titled, "Ethical Reflection on Health Law and Policy," which will include a comparative study of Eastern and Western bioethics. He is looking forward to identifying additional research topics for collaboration with American colleagues.

Dr. Li also plans to work with colleagues in China to translate and publish a series of classic American books related to health management and policy and bioethics. He hopes his American colleagues can recommend significant bioethics texts for this project.

Dr. Li’s institution, Nanjing Medical University, is one of the top medical universities in China. Established 2,500 years ago, Nanjing is a famous historical and cultural city. Nanjing city, also known as "Ancient Capital for Six Dynasties" and "Capital City for Ten Dynasties," is well known for its abundant collection of Chinese historical and cultural relics.
Research Spotlight: Darin Zahuranec, MD

CBSSM-affiliated investigator, Darin Zahuranec, MD is currently conducting a five year, multi-center study entitled, “Prognosis and End-Of-Life Decision Making in Intracerebral Hemorrhage.” Intracerebral hemorrhage (ICH) is a common and severe type of stroke with a high risk of early mortality, though survivors can recover functional independence. One of the most powerful independent predictors of death among patients with ICH is the receipt of a do-not-resuscitate (DNR) order. The decision to write a DNR or to pursue more aggressive treatment occurs very early on, with one-third of ICH patients having a (DNR) order written on the first day. Many factors likely drive end-of-life decision making after ICH, including family values and belief systems, pre-existing illness, physician’s estimate of prognosis, and the family’s understanding of the prognosis. However, there remains uncertainty about physicians’ ability to make accurate prognoses so early on in the course of treatment. This could potentially lead to two types of errors: 1) a person dying who could have otherwise recovered, or 2) a person surviving in a state of severe disability.

This project combines a national survey of physicians with qualitative interviews and surveys of surrogate decision makers in order to understand the process of end-of-life decision making after ICH from the perspective of the physician and the family.

The aims of the project are: 1) To assess determinants of variability in physician prognostic estimates and recommendations to withdraw life sustaining treatment; 2) To describe the factors that influence surrogate end-of-life decisions about ICH and their satisfaction and regret surrounding these decisions; and 3) To identify modifiable determinants of surrogate decisional satisfaction and decisional regret surrounding ICH end-of-life care.

The ultimate goals of this research are to better understand, and then improve, the processes physicians and families use to prognosticate and make end-of-life decisions after ICH.

Dr. Zahuranec is also working on a project in collaboration with 3 other medical centers to prospectively follow patients after ICH without DNR orders to see if this subset of patients has better outcomes than predicted by current ICH prognostic models. This work follows on a previous retrospective study, in which Dr. Zahuranec and colleagues found that applying ICH prognostic models without considering early DNR status could lead to inaccurate predictions of mortality risk, including overestimating the mortality of patients without DNR orders.

For more information:


Recent CBSSM Events (2012)

2012 Research Colloquium and Bishop Lecture

The 2012 CBSSM Research Colloquium was held last May in the Kahn Auditorium in the Biomedical Sciences Research Building (BSRB).

The annual Bishop Lecture in Bioethics served as the keynote address for the Colloquium. The Bishop Lecture featured speakers Dr. Jerome Groopman, Diana and Raphael Recanati Professor of Medicine at Harvard Medical School, and Dr. Pamela Hartzband, Assistant Professor of Medicine at Harvard Medical School. Drs. Groopman and Hartzband jointly presented the Bishop Lecture with a talk entitled, “When Experts Disagree: The Art of Medical Decision Making.” Groopman and Hartzband co-authored “Your Medical Mind,” which outlines how patients can navigate health care choices when making medical decisions.

Colloquium presentations by U-M faculty, fellows and students highlighted research on medical decision making. The colloquium presenters and their topics were as follows:

- Melissa Constantine, PhD: Making a baby in the 21st century: An updated user manual.
- Vida Henderson, PharmD, MPH, MFA, and Deliana Ilarraza: Using community-based participatory research and user-centered design approaches in developing an interactive diabetes decision aid.
- Naomi Laventhal, MD, MA, and Stephanie Kukora, MD: Resident attitudes toward ethical and medical decision-making for neonates born at the limit of viability.
- Kathryn Moseley, MD, MPH: Distrust of pediatricians' sleep advice: Focus group results from the Project for African American Infant Safety.
- Laura Scherer, PhD: What's in a name? The effect of a disease label on parents' decision to medicate a colicky infant.
- Lauren Smith, MD: Cracking the code: Ethical issues involved in the decision to undergo genetic testing.
- Ralph Stern, MD: The myth of individual risk.
- Wendy Uhlmann, MS, CGC: The swinging gate: Genetic testing and ethical issues.

Ellen Peters, PhD Talk

September 20, 2012

Sponsored by CBSSM and the Decision Consortium, Ellen Peters, PhD, Associate Professor of Psychology at Ohio State University gave a talk entitled, “Informed choice and the construction of preferences.” She discussed what is needed to make an informed decision and some of the barriers that exist to effective communication of critical information. Understanding the psychological mechanisms that underlie how people understand and use information is key to developing general principles concerning how to improve decision making.

William Meadow, MD, PhD Talk

October 1, 2012

William Meadow, MD, PhD, Professor of Pediatrics, Co-Section Chief of Neonatology, and Director of the Neonatology Fellowship Program at the University of Chicago gave a talk entitled, “Mathematics of Morality in the NICU.” His talk focused on how data impact decision making in the NICU. An expert in neonatology, Dr. Meadow’s research focuses on medical ethics in the field of neonatal epidemiology. He has examined resource allocation and issues of informed consent in neonatal intensive care units.
2013 CBSSM Research Colloquium and Bishop Lecture

Plans are currently under way for the Bishop Lecture in Bioethics and the Research Colloquium, planned for **April 17, 2013**.

**Ruth Macklin, PhD** will be our 2013 Ronald C. and Nancy V. Bishop Lecturer in Bioethics.

Dr. Macklin is a Professor of Epidemiology & Population Health and Dr. Shoshanah Trachtenberg Frackman Faculty Scholar in Biomedical Ethics at the Albert Einstein College of Medicine. Dr. Macklin also serves as an adviser to the World Health Organization and the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS). She is an elected member of the Institute of Medicine, a member of the Board of Directors of the International Association of Bioethics, and is Co-Director of an NIH Fogarty International Center training program in research ethics.

The Bishop Lecture in Bioethics will be jointly presented by the Bishop Lectureship in Bioethics fund and by the Center for Bioethics and Social Sciences in Medicine (CBSSM).

We will soon be sending out a call for abstracts for the Research Colloquium presentations. **Abstract submissions** are welcome from all disciplines. Please watch [www.cbssm.org](http://www.cbssm.org) for more details.

Charles Bosk, PhD
University of Pennsylvania
March 13, 2013

Charles Bosk, PhD, is a Professor of Sociology and Medical Ethics at the University of Pennsylvania. Dr. Bosk’s research focuses on the culture of medicine. In particular, how health care professionals make sense of experiences in which time-pressured decisions are required in situations filled with un-resolvable uncertainty. He will be the featured presenter at a CBSSM seminar on March 13th. Please watch [www.cbssm.org](http://www.cbssm.org) for more details about his talk.

CBSSM Seminar Series 2012-13

Twice-monthly seminars are sponsored by CBSSM on a variety of topics. Seminars are generally scheduled for the first Wednesday and third Thursday of each month, at 3:00-4:00 pm. See [www.cbssm.org/events](http://www.cbssm.org/events) for details; send a message to kryanz@med.umich.edu to be added to the seminar mailing list.

2012-2013 seminar dates:

- **November 7th**: Jeffrey Kullgren, MD, MPH
- **November 15th**: Susan Goold, MD, MHSA, MA
- **December 5th**: Michele Gornick, PhD
- **January 17th**: Angela Fagerlin, PhD
- **February 6th**: David Sandberg, PhD
- **February 28th**: Alan R. Tait, PhD
- **March 13th**: Charles Bosk, PhD
- **April 10th**: Melissa Constantine, PhD
- **May 16th**: Masahito Jimbo, MD, PhD, MPH
CBSSM is currently soliciting applications from qualified individuals for two post-doctoral research fellow positions for the 2013-2014 academic year:

**Bioethics Post-Doctoral Research Fellow**
Active projects in bioethics at CBSSM currently include informed consent and therapeutic misconception, surrogate decision-making, decision-making capacity for treatment and research, deliberative democratic methods in bioethics, resource allocation, and the sociology of medical ethics/bioethics, among others. Candidates' area of focus must be in bioethics, although their backgrounds may be in social or natural sciences, humanities, medicine, or law.

**Decision Sciences Post-Doctoral Research Fellow**
This fellowship focuses on understanding and improving the health care communication and decisions made by both patients and providers. Past post-doctoral fellows have included scholars whose research in health care communication and decision-making has been approached using theories drawn from social cognition, motivation and emotion, risk communication, ethics, and economics.

CBSSM has five broad programs that serve its research mission and fellows will usually focus on one of these areas. Please see [www.cbssm.org/research](http://www.cbssm.org/research) to learn more.

- Program in Clinical and Research Ethics
- Program in Health Communication and Decision Making
- Program in Medicine and Society
- Program in Health, Justice, and Community
- Program in Genomics, Health, and Society

Post-doctoral fellows are expected to collaborate on established projects and are encouraged to conduct independent research with an emphasis on study inception, manuscript writing, and applying for grants. CBSSM's resources and collaborative support enable the fellows to build their own research programs.

Salary is competitive and commensurate with experience and education. **All** requirements of the PhD or equivalent terminal degree must be completed before the post-doctoral research fellow appointment can begin. Candidates should submit a letter of research interests, reprints/preprints, CV, and three letters of recommendation by **February 4, 2013**. Application materials should be sent in electronic format to:

Valerie Kahn, MPH, Manager
Center for Bioethics and Social Sciences in Medicine
University of Michigan
2800 Plymouth Road, Building 16, Rm. 455S
Ann Arbor, MI 48109-2800
valkahn@med.umich.edu
Working Groups at CBSSM

Working group meetings provide an opportunity for investigators to receive feedback on research proposals, drafts of papers, grant applications, or any other aspects of projects at any stage of development.

The Program in Health Communication and Decision Making (PIHCD) working group explores topics related to understanding and improving patient decision making about medical issues.

The Bioethics Working Group (BWG) provides a forum for project-focused discussions with an emphasis on bioethics. The goal is to provide a productive and supportive intellectual milieu for anyone with bioethics-related projects.

PIHCD and BWG have alternate meetings on Thursdays, 2-3 pm (unless otherwise noted). Topics and speaker information are sent out via email prior to each meeting.

To be added to the email list, contact Nicole Exe at nexe@umich.edu (PIHCD) or Kerry Ryan at kryanz@med.umich.edu (BWG).

Website: www.cbssm.org/research_groups.

CBSSM Representation at SMDM and ASBH

**CBSSM investigators were very visible at the 34th Annual Meeting of the Society of Medical Decision Making (SMDM) in Phoenix, AZ, October 17-20, 2012.**

Laura Scherer, Brian Zikmund-Fisher, Angela Fagerlin, and Beth Tarini. What’s in a name? The influence of a disease label on a parent’s decision to medicate a fussy baby. Plenary Address.


Brian Zikmund-Fisher, Holly Witteman, Mark Dickson, Andrea Fuhrel-Forbis, Valerie Kahn, Nicole Exe, Melissa Valerio, Lisa Holtzman, Laura Scherer, and Angela Fagerlin. Blocks, ovals, or people: does icon type in pictographs influence the correlation between perceived and actual risk? Oral Presentation.

Angela Fagerlin, Margaret Holmes-Rovner, David Rovner, Stewart Alexander, Sara Knight, Bruce Ling, James Tulsly, Julie Tobi, and Peter Ubel. Does keeping it simple actually help? Testing the impact of the reading level of a decision aid on prostate cancer decision making. Oral Presentation.

Valerie Kahn, Peter Ubel, Margaret Holmes-Rovner, David Rovner, Stewart Alexander, Sara Knight, Bruce Ling, James Tulsly, Julie Tobi and Angela Fagerlin. Determining The Relationship Between Patient Literacy And The Decision Making Experience Of Patients With Prostate Cancer. Oral Presentation.

Holly Witteman, Laura Scherer, Andrea Angott, Peter Ubel, Mark Dickson, Lisa Holtzman, Nicole Exe, and Brian Zikmund-Fisher. Hold My Hand: Explicitly Showing Tradeoffs And Fit Between Values And Options Helps People Make Choices Concordant With Their Stated Values. Oral Presentation.

Laura Scherer, Margaret Holmes-Rovner, David Rovner, Peter Ubel, Stewart Alexander, Sara Knight, Bruce Ling, James Tulsly, Valerie Kahn, and Angela Fagerlin. Anxiety And Action Bias As Predictors Of Prostate Cancer Treatment Preferences And Treatment Decisions. Oral Presentation.

**CBSSM investigators also presented at the 2012 Annual Meeting of the American Society of Bioethics and Humanities (ASBH) in Washington, DC, October 18-21, 2012.**


CBSSM Faculty

CBSSM welcomes faculty involvement across the institution. Faculty affiliated with CBSSM come not only from the Medical School but also from the School of Public Health, the School of Public Policy, the Law School, the College of Literature, Science and the Arts, and the Institute for Social Research.

Selected 2012-2013 Faculty Highlights

Scott Kim will receive the 2012 Research Award from the Academy of Psychosomatic Medicine. He will be giving a plenary lecture at the APM annual meeting.

Ray De Vries is currently on sabbatical in the Netherlands where he has a joint appointment at Maastricht University. Dr. De Vries gave the plenary talk at the European Association of Centers of Medical Ethics Annual Meeting and is headed to Israel to give four talks as part of his Sackler Lecturer Fellowship. He was also recently interviewed for the Maastricht University Magazine article: “Childbirth: Home versus hospital delivery.”

Kathryn Moseley has been elected Secretary of the American Society for Bioethics and Humanities. In addition, Dr. Moseley’s study related to genetic counseling for parents of newborns who are carriers of sickle cell anemia or cystic fibrosis received coverage in several media outlets.

Joel Howell has been selected as the 2013 recipient of the American College of Physicians Nicholas E. Davies Memorial Scholar Award for Scholarly Activities in the Humanities and History of Medicine.

Susan Goold was elected Vice Chair of the AMA Council on Ethical and Judicial Affairs (CEJA).

Michael Fetters was promoted to Professor in the Department of Family Medicine.

Edward Goldman was elected Fellow of the American Health Lawyers Association, which is the AHLA’s highest honor. Dr. Goldman was also awarded a Rackham Michigan Meetings grant to put on a three-day conference on international aspects of reproductive justice, scheduled for May 29-June 1, 2013.

Scott Roberts, Scott Kim, and Ray De Vries are investigators on the Ethics team for the new $10M Stand Up to Cancer and Prostate Cancer Foundation (SU2C-PCF) “Prostate Dream Team Translational Cancer Research Grant.” Arul Chinnaiyan, MD, PhD and Charles Sawyer, MD are the principal investigators.

Dorene Markel is traveling to China as part of the UMHS Joint Institute for Translational and Clinical Research with Peking University Health Science Center.

Lauren Smith was the Ethics Keynote Speaker at the 32nd Annual UM Graduate Student Symposium in the Pharmacological Sciences and Biorelated Chemistry.

Naomi Laventhal was promoted to Clinical Assistant Professor in the Department of Pediatrics and Communicable Diseases.

Scott Roberts chaired a featured research session at the Alzheimer’s Association International Conference (AAIC) related to new research on disclosing risk information.

Reshma Jagsi has received a great deal of press related to her June 2012 JAMA article “Gender Differences in the Salaries of Physician Researchers.” Dr. Jagsi was interviewed by the Associated Press, and the article received coverage in multiple sources including the New York Times, Forbes, MSNBC, and the Wall Street Journal. Dr. Jagsi has also been appointed to the Ethics Committee at the American Society of Clinical Oncology (ASCO) and as chair of the Research Committee of the Radiation Oncology Institute.

Sarah Hawley, Jennifer Griggs, Angela Fagerlin, and Reshma Jagsi are investigators for a new $13.6M Grant to Study Decision Making about Breast Cancer Treatment. Steven J Katz, MD, MPH, Co-Director of the Socio-Behavioral Program at the UM Comprehensive Cancer Center is the principal investigator.
Recent Selected Faculty Publications


CBSSM People

New Faces at CBSSM

Emily Magoc joined CBSSM in February 2012 as a Research Associate, working with Angie Fagerlin and Susan Goold.

Emily earned a Bachelor’s degree in Environmental Science from Allegheny College and a Master’s of Public Health in Environmental Health/Environmental Epidemiology from the University of Michigan School of Public Health.

Emily is a USA/YMCA swim coach for the Farmington Family YMCA Stingrays club. Welcome Emily!

Promotions

Valerie Kahn has been promoted to Center Manager of CBSSM. She also serves as Project Manager for the CECCR study (Center for Excellence in Cancer Communication Research). Congratulations, Valerie!

Kerry Ryan has been promoted to Research Area Specialist Intermediate/Public Relations and Event Planning Coordinator. She will be in charge of the CBSSM newsletter, website/social media updates, as well as seminars and other CBSSM event planning. Congratulations, Kerry!

Knoll Larkin and Meghan Roney have been promoted to Research Area Specialist Intermediate. Congratulations, Knoll and Meghan!

Baby News

Congratulations to...

Angie Fagerlin and her husband, Tony Tsai, on the birth of their son, Theo, on March 19, 2012.

Naomi Laventhal and her husband, Jason Whipple, on the birth of their son, Zev, on June 7, 2012.

Andrea Fuhrel-Forbis and her husband, Mike, on the birth of their son, Sean, on July 27, 2012.

Michele Gornick and her husband, Levi Nieminen, on the birth of their daughter, Audrey Rose, on September 23, 2012.

Staff Publications

Rochelle DeCastro and Dana Sambuco are first authors on two articles related to faculty research mentorship to be published in Academic Medicine. Great Work!

Staff Departures

Nancy (Birk) Calvin-Naylor left CBSSM to take a new position as Associate Managing Director of Education and Mentoring at the Michigan Institute for Clinical & Health Research (MICHRI). We miss her and wish her well in her great new position!

Lisa Holtzman left CBSSM to move to Massachusetts so her husband could continue his residency at UMass Memorial. We wish her well!
**CBSSM People (cont.)**

**Student Staff at CBSSM**

**Leslie Arney** is a MPH student in the International Epidemiology department at the UM School of Public Health. She is from Hendersonville, NC and earned her BSPH degree in Environmental Health from the UNC School of Public Health. She is working on the CECCR project.

**Pranavi Midathada (Navi)** is a sophomore at U of M, majoring in Anthropology. She likes drawing and playing the ukulele.

**Andrew El-Alam** is a freshman in LSA participating in the UROP program. He is from Sterling Heights, MI and is studying to go pre-med. He likes soccer and longboarding in his spare time. He is working on the Prostate Cancer Recurrence Study.

**Tolulope Olorode** is a MSW/MUP (Master of Urban Planning) dual degree student at U of M. She is from Chicago and enjoys photography. She is working on the PCORI and DECIDERS studies.

**Staff Adventures...**

**Daniel Connochie** traveled to Japan recently, has co-organized an Ann Arbor ultimate frisbee team, and is in the process of applying to doctoral programs in the area of Social/Personality Psychology.

**Nicole Exe** traveled to Italy and went on a Caribbean cruise.

**Meghan Roney** traveled to Spain.

**Coming Soon!**

Please keep an eye out for our new website to be launched later this Fall!

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**New Ways to Connect...**

You can also connect with CBSSM on LinkedIn and on Facebook!