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### CenterLine, 1995, V4 N1, Fall/Winter

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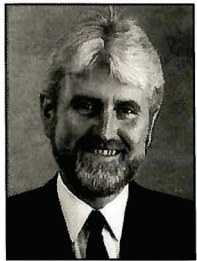
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# The CENTERLINE

A NEWSLETTER OF THE PARK RIDGE CENTER FOR THE STUDY OF HEALTH, FAITH, AND ETHICS

## *From the President*

# Our Mission into the Twenty-first Century



*Laurence J. O'Connell,  
President and CEO,  
The Park Ridge Center*

The Park Ridge Center was established to interpret and actively promote the interaction of health, faith, and ethics in the lives of individuals and communities. As the focus and structures of health care delivery in the United States are substantially altered, the work and the self-understanding of the Center will undoubtedly take a new turn. Although this development is natural, and indeed good, the Center must remain true to the intentions of our founders while at the same time acknowledging that it is a new day in health care.

The unique perspective of the Center, intentionally shaped by and attuned to the effect of belief systems on health-related concerns, offers powerful insight into the moral quandaries and practical problems now surfacing. As health-related services are fashioned into integrated networks of care that aim at improving the health status of communities while reducing costs, moral questions abound. The ethical spotlight will be trained on the balancing act between acceptable standards of care and outcomes, on the one hand, and the equitable distribution of health care resources within our communities, on the other hand. The moral character

of the American health care system will be judged on the adequacy of the balance we strike between serving both legitimate economic interests and genuine human need.

The rapidly changing approach to health and health care delivery has given birth to Advocate Health Care, a fully integrated health care delivery network that consciously grounds institutional policies and practices in a religious worldview that is open to all people. The emergence of Advocate at this point in our national history and within the religious traditions that gave birth to the Park Ridge Center represents a critical turning point that affords the Center a wealth of new possibilities.

Our proximity to the lived experience of Advocate provides opportune access to the fields where health, faith, and ethics will interact most energetically in the years to come. As a self-conscious attempt to deploy the respective strengths of various religious traditions, Advocate is perhaps the richest and best-organized locus for studying (and experimenting with) the impact of faith upon the health-related conduct of individuals and communities. So we do not study Advocate for Advocate's sake alone. We study Advocate because its stated mission, internal dynamic, as well as its institutional and social status, are directly relevant to our own mission. What we learn from Advocate will be transferred to many other audiences through our publications, consultation, and educational initiatives; and, in turn, Advocate and its many partners will find added support in their

very intentional effort to hear and respond more sensitively to human need in a very threatening health care environment.

Advocate integrates health-related services into a network of care aimed at improving the health status of the community. As a continuum of care, it comprises the full spectrum of emerging health care structures, including hospitals, ambulatory-care centers, home care, long-term care, occupational health, mental health services, hospice, and more. Here the Park Ridge Center finds a ready-made laboratory for tracking the interaction of health, faith, and ethics within a fully articulated yet reasonably circumscribed field. Advocate will serve as a radar screen, alerting us to significant areas of concern and challenging us to investigate and report on faith-related issues in a rapidly evolving health care environment. For example, the impending reforms of Medicare,

*(continued on back page)*

### *In this issue:*

- Religion and sexuality study to be funded by Ford Foundation, MacArthur Foundation, and Pew Global Stewardship Initiative
- Center's clinical ethics program gathers momentum



# CLINICAL HEALTHCARE ETHICS SUPPORT SERVICES

## Strengthening the commitment to clinical ethics

The Park Ridge Center was born from a commitment to help patients and their providers by illuminating the roles of personal and religious values in health care decision making. The creation of a clinical ethics program represents a renewal and expansion of that original commitment in the face of technological and economic forces that make ethical choices more difficult than ever.

In 1993 the Park Ridge Center established its Healthcare Ethics Consulting Service. The January 1995 merger that brought together EHS (Evangelical health system) and LGHS (Lutheran General HealthSystem) to create Advocate Health Care has led to the reconfiguration of the Center's clinical ethics program as Clinical Healthcare Ethics Support Services, or CHES.

Since the merger, the primary CHES mission has been to provide ethics education and consultation services to ethics programs, clinical practitioners, and the administrators at all the Advocate sites of care. CHES staff members assist clinicians facing the varied ethical issues arising in nursing homes, home care, and hospice care, as well as in acute-care settings.

In addition, CHES provides support to systemwide ethics initiatives within Advocate. CHES staff played a significant part in drafting Advocate statements on organizational ethics and patient rights and will assist in the educational efforts that will accompany dissemination of these statements throughout the organization. Efforts to address the vexing ethical questions raised by organ donations from non-heart-beating cadavers and the practicalities of offering assistance with advance directives are co-

ordinated by CHES staff members.

The CHES staff is continuing several external consulting relationships established before the Advocate merger and considers consulting relationships with new clients as opportunities arise. Currently, the Park Ridge Center provides ongoing educational and case consultation services to Mercy and Swedish Covenant hospitals in the Chicago area.

The CHES staff is also active in the Center's publication activities. A book recently accepted for publication by Southern Methodist University Press, *Must We Suffer Our Way to Death?* is being coedited by CHES staff member Edwin R. DuBose, and CHES staff members will share responsibility for producing the clinical ethics column "In the Trenches," which is a regular feature in the Center's new publication *Making the Rounds in Health, Faith, and Ethics*. "In the Trenches" will bring together "the voice of the people" and thoughtful ethical reflection by soliciting the ethics concerns experienced by a wide array of persons directly involved with health care—from respiratory therapists to dieticians to congregation members with health care stories to tell—and submitting those concerns (via the Internet) to a nationwide panel of ethicists for succinct commentary.

Finally, CHES has an important role in helping the Center plan and coordinate conferences. Last August

CHES coordinated registration and other arrangements for the Chicago Conference on Ethics in Health Care Institutions, cosponsored by the Center, and will take the lead in coordinating the 1996 Advocate Health Care ethics conference, which will focus on multicultural perspectives in clinical ethics.

The backgrounds and experiences of CHES staff members are diverse. Daniel O. Dugan, the senior member of the team and a codirector of CHES, brings more than 20 years of rich clinical experience in ethics consultation to the Center. Edwin R. DuBose is a clinical ethics consultant who contributes a strong background in research and publication to ethics consulting activities. Two new staff members have joined CHES in the last six months. Codirector David McCurdy joined the Center in May, following 15 years in pastoral care, education, and administration. Rebecca Pruitt, the most recent addition to the staff, combines extensive experience as a social worker in neonatology with a background and practice as an attorney.

The consultants are ably assisted in their work by Brendan Janis, who provides research assistance and technical support and coordinates conference planning, and by Constance Lane, who provides administrative support for the ever-increasing level of CHES activities.

*The CHES staff.*  
Front row (left to right):  
Brendan Janis, Rebecca  
Pruitt, Connie Lane.  
Back row:  
Daniel O. Dugan,  
Edwin R. DuBose,  
David B. McCurdy.





# RESEARCH

## Center study of religion, sexuality, and public policy funded by Ford Foundation, MacArthur Foundation, and Pew Global Stewardship Initiative

With world religions playing an increasingly prominent role in matters related to sexuality, the Park Ridge Center will undertake a project to help public-policy makers and public administrators understand and work with a variety of religious leaders and communities across the globe. The project, which will begin in December, has received funding from the Ford Foundation, the MacArthur Foundation, and the Pew Global Stewardship Initiative.

States and societies, too, have a longstanding interest in sexuality, seeking to regulate even the most intimate dimensions of human life for the sake of what advances some notion of

the collective good. In many instances, in fact, religious and political leaders have joined forces for a variety of reasons to shape attitudes, beliefs, laws, and practices regarding sexuality.

What has changed is the scope of the discussion. Rather than taking place only in local and regional spheres, deliberations about sexuality occur on national and international fronts. Recent social movements and developments in reproductive health have also had an important part in shaping the character of debates from the local to global levels, with religious and political leaders taking increasingly visible roles. And under these altered conditions, what could once be taken for granted needs to be reexamined and recast. That is especially the case with regard to the place religion has in shaping public policy on matters related to sexuality, whether it be sex education, reproductive health, family planning, the status of women, the role of males in

families, or a host of related issues.

The principal investigator for the project will be Professor Regina M. Schwartz, who recently left Duke University, where she was an associate professor in the departments of



Regina  
Schwartz

English and Religious Studies, to join the faculty of Northwestern University in Evanston, Illinois. Author of the forthcoming *Violent Identities: The Biblical Legacy of Monotheism*, she has a strong interest in exploring how religions contribute to both social conflict and reconciliation. Larry L. Greenfield, research scholar at the Center, will serve as the project director.

## Two scholars join research staff

We are pleased to welcome two new research scholars to the Park Ridge Center.

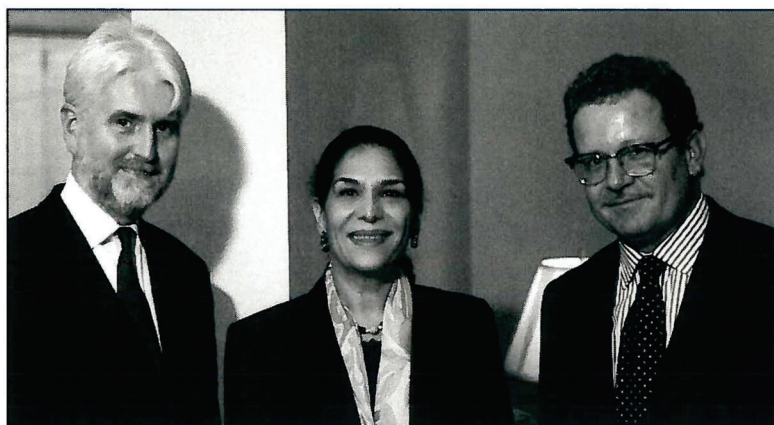
**T. Patrick Hill** joined our staff in October; most recently, he served for four years as director of education and public information for Choice in Dying, New York. He is a medical ethicist trained in philosophy and theology, with substantial experience designing, implementing, and evaluating innovative demonstration programs for a wide range of health care professionals. He has more than 20 years of experience developing and disseminating educational materials for the public and has written extensively about end-of-life-care issues.

**Martha Holstein** is completing her doctoral degree at the Institute for the Medical Humanities, University of Texas Medical Branch, Galveston. She served for 15 years as associate director of the American Society on Aging. She is author of numerous articles on aging and bioethics and coeditor of *A Good Old Age? The Paradox of Setting Limits*. Her research will focus on meaning in old age, ethics and Alzheimer's disease, and ethical questions related to public policy. Holstein will be joining the staff in January 1996.

## Center staff collaborates on issue of *HEC Forum*

At the request of *HEC Forum's* editor, Park Ridge Center produced the July 1995 issue, in which Center researchers contributed essays addressing a range of health-faith-ethics issues. Staff authors brought their diverse points of view to bear on these issues as they are manifest in difficult cases brought to ethics committees. *HealthCare Ethics Committee Forum: An Interprofessional Journal on Healthcare Institutions' Ethical and Legal Issues* is published by Kluwer Academic Publishers.

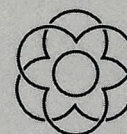




### **Her Royal Highness Princess Wijdan Ali of Jordan visits Center**

On October 2 the Center hosted a seminar in honor of the visit of Princess Wijdan Ali titled "Images of Health and Healing in Islamic Art and Architecture." Her Royal Highness holds a Ph.D. in Islamic Art from the School of Oriental and African Studies, University of London, and teaches Islamic art and aesthetics at Al al-Bayt University, Mafrq, Jordan. Pictured with Princess Wijdan Ali are Laurence J. O'Connell, President and CEO of the Park Ridge Center, and Professor Yasser Tabbaa, of the Department of the History of Art, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor.

If you have a comment or suggestion or if your address has changed, we'd like to hear from you. Please write or call James E. Mueller, Editor, *The CenterLine*, c/o The Park Ridge Center, 211 East Ontario, Suite 800, Chicago, Illinois 60611. Our phone number is 312-266-2222; our fax number is 312/266-6086.



## **The CenterLine**

*A newsletter of  
the Park Ridge Center  
for the Study of  
Health, Faith, and Ethics*

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We apologize if you receive duplicate copies of *The CenterLine*. Please pass your extra copy on to a friend.

### **Our Mission into the Twenty-first Century** *(continued from front page)*

Medicaid, and the welfare system in the United States will pose some serious questions for those of us who value a not-for-profit, faith-based approach to health and health-related services.

We are currently planning to invest significant time and energy in developing projects that will focus on the ethical dimensions of faith-based integrated delivery networks and their relationships to church and social structures. For example, we will study managed care within this context. We will study the political role of a faith-based delivery system in a pluralistic society. We will study the ethical

implications of the huge information systems that are essential for an integrated network. We will explore the ethical implications of including or excluding alternative therapies in a faith-based continuum of care. We will study clinical ethics within a capitated system. We will study the ethical duty of a faith-based system to address issues like domestic violence, discrimination, and racism. We will study the place of religious congregations *within* the continuum of care. The list goes on and on. We also anticipate our publications, consultation, and educational efforts will give significant attention to the ethical dimensions of faith-based integrated delivery networks and their relationships to healthy com-

munities, both religious and civic.

While it is clear from what I have said that the field of engagement has been reconfigured and rendered more complex, it should be equally clear that our mission of promoting the interaction of health, faith, and ethics in the lives of individuals and communities remains the same. Ideally positioned within a fully integrated, faith-based health network, committed to a mission that is utterly relevant to our times, and blessed with a staff unequaled in commitment and competence, the Park Ridge Center is poised on the threshold of an exciting and meaningful journey. We look forward to your support and companionship as we move toward the third millennium.



# PUBLICATIONS

## Center launches booklet series for health care workers

Health care workers need to provide care and services that are appropriate and accessible to people of different religious backgrounds. Yet the very number of religious traditions represented and the proliferation of clinical issues and procedures on which these traditions hold moral positions make the task of providing religiously informed care a daunting one. The new Religious Traditions and Health Care Decisions series of booklets from the Park Ridge Center provides accessible and practical information on the values and beliefs of religious traditions. As references for clinical information, decision making, and caregiving, the booklets should be useful to nurses, physicians, chaplains, social workers, administrators, and others who care for the sick in hospitals and various health care institutions.

Each booklet has three sections. The first gives the reader a broad historical and theological context for the tradition, including its general views on health and illness. The second section covers the tradition's positions on a variety of clinical issues. These issues are broadly organized around

the life cycle, with attention to subsets of procedures and concerns. They were chosen because they represent points at which ethical and moral dilemmas often arise in the clinical setting. The final section offers information on special concerns relevant to the particular tradition.

Booklets on the Methodist, the Latter-day Saints, the Jehovah's Witness, and the Christian Science traditions are available now, and booklets on other traditions will be published soon. The cost of the booklets is \$4.95 each (includes shipping and handling). To order, contact the Center at 312/266-2222 or write to us at 211 E. Ontario, Suite 800, Chicago, IL 60611.

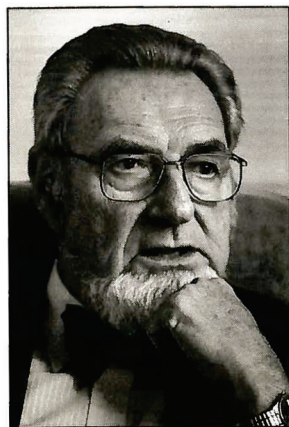
## Center adds Anabaptist book to Health/Medicine series

Graydon F. Snyder's *Health and Medicine in the Anabaptist Tradition: Care in Community*—the fourteenth volume in the Center-sponsored series Health/Medicine and the Faith Traditions—was published by Trinity Press International in June. It addresses the practices and beliefs of varieties of Anabaptists, including the Brethren, Mennonites, Amish, and

Hutterites. Anabaptists represent an important element in the religious history of this country and a strong overall witness in our culture. The focus of these groups on peace and reconciliation has produced pacifists during many wars in many nations, leading some into alternative service and even imprisonment. Yet members of larger denominations and religious communities know little about Anabaptists and the Anabaptist tradition.

Snyder helps readers understand the distinctive commitments of Anabaptists, especially as these influence Anabaptist approaches to health and medicine. Understandings of wellness and illness, care and cure, suffering and death are taken up in a communal context, an approach that demands serious consideration in our times. "In order to understand even present-day health practices in the Anabaptist tradition," he writes, "it is absolutely necessary to grasp the effect of the community in the formation of the individual. Yet unless one is of the Anabaptist tradition, that influence is difficult to comprehend."

To order a copy of the book, contact Trinity Press International, P.O. Box 851, Valley Forge, PA 19482-0851; phone: 1-800-421-8874; fax: 215-768-2107.



**"In medicine the most encouraging thing I find today is the truly altruistic, self-giving attitude of the new medical students. I despaired of medical students 20 years ago. We were admitting to medical school a lot of very bright examination-passers. They could have gone into physics or computer science, but they came into medicine because it looked like a way to make a comfortable living. They didn't feel a calling. I think that medicine and ministry are two things that you have to be called to do; otherwise you are just doing a job and never using your heart and soul."**

— Former U.S. Surgeon General C. Everett Koop, in the September 11, 1995, issue of *Making the Rounds in Health, Faith, and Ethics* (published semimonthly by the Park Ridge Center)



# CENTER NEWS

## New staffers provide support

**Julie A. Concklin** joined the staff as development and public affairs assistant in October, after serving for four years as a campaign coordinator and legislative aide to Illinois State Representative Bill Brady.

**Ann L. Rehfeldt** joined the publications staff as editorial assistant in October; she previously worked as managing editor for Augsburg Fortress, Publishers.

**Deverieux N. Smith**, administrative secretary, is the newest member of the CHESS team; she comes to the Center from Primerica Financial Services, where she was an executive assistant.



*Baxter International, Inc., makes a gift in support of research and education initiatives at the Park Ridge Center. Laurence J. O'Connell accepts a check from Lester B. Knight, executive vice president, Baxter International, Inc. On Dr. O'Connell's right is Greg Pritchard, president, midwest region, Baxter Healthcare Corporation.*

## Evening Conversation links worlds of faith and medicine

Senior Scholar-in-Residence Martin Marty will be joined by Rev. Robert Kemper, former chairman of the board, EHS, and pastor of the First

Congregational Church, United Church of Christ, Western Springs, Illinois, and Dr. William Arnold, chair, Department of Medicine, Lutheran General Hospital, Park Ridge, Illinois, at Elmhurst College on December 5, 1995, to present "Retrieving and Reweaving Faith into Health Care."

## Your gift sustains Center's work

Decisions about health care require time for thoughtful reflection—something not often afforded at the time decisions are required. This was brought home to me recently when my son spent the first 64 days of his life in a newborn intensive care unit. Even though I have been immersed in a work environment that daily considers the ethical and faith dimensions of health, my wife and I were often hard-pressed to keep pace with choices made necessary by medical technology.

Across its programs—research, clinical ethics support services, publications—the Center invites people to think about their beliefs and values and how they relate to ethical decision making in health care. Through their work, staff members strive to evoke, inform, and facilitate self-reflection, interpersonal conversations, and constructive change—before crises arise.

In order to continue its work, the Center relies on the financial contributions of individuals. Gifts from individu-

als are especially important in two ways. First, they support innovation by providing income that allows us to try new ideas. Second, these gifts help us pay for the indirect costs that usually are not covered by the grants we receive from foundations and corporations.

If you believe in the importance of the Center's work, we invite you to make a contribution. Your gift can take many forms: from cash and securities to property or trust arrangements. And there are ways to honor others through your gifts or to create special funds.

If you have questions, my colleagues and I would be glad to discuss with you various opportunities and mechanisms for giving, including deferred and estate gifts. Please feel free to use the accompanying postpaid envelope for correspondence or call us at the Center at 312/266-2222.

Thank you for considering the Park Ridge Center in your philanthropic plans.

—James E. Mueller

*Vice president for Development and Public Affairs*