



Health Ethics Symposium

Disability Ethics: Within and Beyond a Canadian Context

Thursday, 21 November 2024

PARTICIPANTS' BIOGRAPHIES



Chloë G. K. Atkins, PhD is the Executive Director of the The PROUD Project, a bilingual (English and French) charitable non-profit which conducts research and advocates in the area of disability, health equity, disability employment equity and anti-ableism. It produces a podcast, Broadcastability: a podcast by, for and about people with disabilities. PROUD is associated with the University of Toronto. It receives funding from Social and Development Canada, the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada, the Department of National Defence Research Council of Canada, TechNation, Catherine & Frederik Eaton Family Foundation, UofT Global Teaching Grant & private donors. Chloë holds a status-only position in the Department of Political Science, University of Toronto, Scarborough and is on disability leave from the Faculty of Arts, University of Calgary. Chloë has a PhD in Political Theory from the University of Toronto and a postdoc in Law from Cornell University (Fulbright). She publishes in medical, legal, and social science journals about disability, bioethics, health equity, anti-ableism, human rights and, narrative scholarship. Chloë authored *My Imaginary Illness* (Cornell 2010) receiving 3 prizes: American Journal of Nursing (2011) Book of the Year; 2011 May Cohen Lecture in Women's Health, Faculty of Health Sciences, McMaster University; 5th Annual Sue MacRae Lecture on Ethics and Patient-Centred Care, UofT. She has held SSHRC, Clarke, Fulbright and, Killam fellowships.



C. Dalrymple-Fraser, PhD is a postdoctoral fellow in the Department of Philosophy at the University of Toronto. Their primary research explores disabled and 2SLGBTQIA+ exclusion and discrimination in healthcare, with related research interests in disability's places in suicidology, public health, research ethics, and horror media.



Isabel Grant, FRSC, LLM is a Professor at the Peter A. Allard School of Law at the University of British Columbia. Isabel specializes in criminal law responses to violence against women with a particular interest in women with disabilities, and has published extensively in areas including sexual assault, murder, criminal harassment, HIV nondisclosure and most recently medical assistance in dying (MAiD). Isabel has been a long-time volunteer for Inclusion Canada as chair of the Strategic Litigation Committee. It was through this work that she became involved in Bill C-7 and the expansion of MAiD. She has testified on the subject before the Senate and the AMAD Joint Committee and has recently published two papers on MAiD, one focusing on the constitutional dimensions of Track 2 MAiD and the other looking at the intersections of feminism and ableism in the expansion of MAiD. Isabel has worked pro bono on multiple interventions in appellate courts and at the Supreme Court of Canada for disability and feminist organizations. She is a member of the B.C. bar and has appeared before the Court of Appeal for British Columbia in a number of criminal law cases. Isabel was elected as a fellow of the Royal Society of Canada in 2021.



Nancy Hansen, PhD is a Professor and Director of the Interdisciplinary Master's Program in Disability Studies at the University of Manitoba. Nancy obtained a PhD (Human Geography) from the University of Glasgow. and her research interests in disability studies are varied including; disability in spaces of culture education, literacy social policy, employment healthcare MAiD, COVID-19, access and experiences of disabled and LGBTQ communities in post-conflict areas. She is co-editor of the *Routledge History of Disability* and *Untold Stories: A Canadian Disability History Reader*. In addition, Nancy has written numerous book chapters and contributed to various international academic journals.



Heidi Janz, PhD is an Associate Adjunct Professor with the John Dossetor Health Ethics Centre. Heidi specializes in Disability Ethics. She is also active in disability rights advocacy at a national level. In her "other life," Heidi is a writer/playwright and filmmaker. Her creative work focusses on making the experiences of people with disabilities accessible to audiences made up of both people with disabilities and people who are temporarily able-bodied.



Diane Kunyk, RN, PhD is a Professor with the Faculty of Nursing and Adjunct Professor with the John Dossetor Health Ethics Centre, University of Alberta. Diane's program of research focuses on enhancing the ethical capacity of health and organizational policies as these relate to the wellbeing of populations. The methods she employs in this research include qualitative, quantitative and knowledge synthesis, and much of this work has been with interdisciplinary research teams.



Brendan Leier, PhD earned his doctorate from the Department of Philosophy, University of Alberta, in 2002. Brendan is Adjunct Professor with the John Dossetor Health Ethics Centre. He is presently doing research on the topics of pediatric best interest, moral distress, end-of-life decision-making, transplant ethics, ethics of medical technology, compassion in the practice of medicine, risk and decision-making.



Gillian Lemermeier, PhD, RN is an Assistant Professor in the Faculty of Nursing at the University of Alberta, Canada. Gillian's research explores the embodied ethics of healthcare practices, investigating questions situated in the relational encounters between nurses and other healthcare practitioners with the people in their care. Her research program is focused on themes of relational ethics, the nurse's touch, and the ethics of artificial intelligence in healthcare. Methodological approaches include phenomenology and other qualitative methods. Current projects include the technoethics of electronic health record systems and other research projects have explored the nurse's touch in the NICU, the effects of AI and other digital technologies in K-12 education and the experience of families in the NICU. Her nursing background is in neonatal intensive care, family bereavement, and professional regulation. Her teaching practice is in healthcare ethics with undergraduate and graduate students and qualitative research methods.



Carrielynn Lund, is a Métis Knowledge holder and consultant whose primary focus is on assisting Indigenous communities to identify and address health and social issues that have a negative impact on children and their families. She has done extensive work in the area of health research around HIV, Hep C, STBBI and related mental health and stigma, particularly with Indigenous youth, Elders, resilience and research ethics. Her extensive committee work includes service on the Aboriginal Healing Foundation (Treasurer), the Canadian Institute of Health Research Ethics Standing Committee and the Health Canada/Public Health Agency of Canada Research Ethics Board. Carrielynn contributes substantially to the CIHR review and process development and is highly skilled working within Network environments. She

worked with CAAN Communities, Alliances and Networks (formally the Canadian Aboriginal AIDS Network) from 2013 until 2023 coordinating two national Indigenous-focused projects. As a person with lived experience of Hep C, she works with researchers to assist in creating appropriate space for people with lived/living experience to be meaningfully engaged in research projects, from developing the proposal to knowledge translation and co-authoring articles. Carrielynn is currently a member of the Pewaseskwan team at the University of Saskatchewan.



Marghalara Rashid, PhD is an Assistant Professor in the Division of Pediatric Hospital Medicine, Department of Pediatrics, Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry, University of Alberta. Marghalara's focus is on cultural competency inclusion specifically exploring the experiences of health professionals and trainees from marginalized groups such as indigenous communities, visible minorities, and people with disabilities to promote Equity, Diversity, Inclusion, and Indigenization (EDII). She also focusses on developing educational interventions that will assist educators and learners in gaining the cultural competencies required to provide appropriate care to patients from diverse groups. In particular, a philosophical approach to critical theory, intersectionality and decolonizing framework has played a significant role in informing study design, research questions, and the ensuing trajectory of her research projects.



Joel Michael Reynolds, PhD, MA is a Senior Research Scholar in the Kennedy Institute of Ethics and Associate Professor of Philosophy and Disability Studies at Georgetown University, Faculty in the Department of Family Medicine and the Pellegrino Center for Clinical Bioethics at Georgetown University School of Medicine/Georgetown University Medical Center, Senior Bioethics Advisor to The Hastings Center, and Faculty Scholar of The Greenwall Foundation. At Georgetown, Joel is also Director of the Disability Studies Program, Faculty in the Medical Humanities Initiative, and Director of graduate placement in the Department of Philosophy. They are the author or co-author of over sixty articles and chapters in philosophy and biomedical ethics in outlets including the *New England Journal of Medicine*, *AMA Journal of Ethics*, *JAMA Health Forum*, *Nature Biotechnology*, and the *Journal of Medical Ethics*. Joel is also author or co-editor of six books, including *The Disability Bioethics Reader* and *Disability Justice in Public Health Emergencies*, and founder of *The Journal of Philosophy of Disability* and co-founder of the book series *Oxford Studies in Disability, Ethics, and Society*.



Sebastian Straube, PhD holds degrees in Medicine and Physiological Sciences from the University of Oxford where he also did his DPhil (PhD). After clinical work and research at the Oxford Radcliffe Hospitals, Sebastian joined the University Medical Center Göttingen (Germany). There he completed his Habilitation (German postdoctoral qualification) and his postgraduate medical training in Occupational Medicine. Sebastian took up his current post in the Division of Preventive Medicine of the University of Alberta's Department of Medicine in 2014. He was appointed as Division Director for Preventive Medicine in 2016 and promoted to Full Professor in 2019.



Michael van Manen, MD, PhD, FRCPC(Peds,NICU,CIP) Endowed Chair in Health Ethics is the Director of the John Dossetor Health Ethics Centre and an Associate Professor in the Department of Pediatrics. Michael also has a clinical practice as a physician in neonatal-perinatal medicine with the Stollery Children's Hospital. His research is primarily concerned with relational ethics, situated within the tradition of phenomenology. Michael is considered an international expert in qualitative health research. His research projects relate to ethical decision-making, the experiential life of the fetus/newborn, the use of medical technologies in clinical encounters, and patient-family experiences of hospital care.



Gregor Wolbring, PhD, a lifelong wheelchair user, has been trained as a biochemist in Germany (University of Tuebingen, Max Plank Institute for Biophysics, Frankfurt) and the UK (University College London and London Biotechnology Ltd) and worked as a benchwork biochemist at the University of Calgary, Cumming School of Medicine from 1992-2008. Gregor is now a tenured Full Professor at the University of Calgary's Cumming School of Medicine, Community Health Sciences, Program in Community Rehabilitation and Disability Studies and the academic director (disability and accessibility) at the University of Calgary Office for Equity, Diversity and Inclusion. He is also a member of the Institute for Technology Assessment and Systems Analysis (ITAS), Karlsruhe, Germany and a senior fellow of the Institute for Science, Society and Policy, University of Ottawa, Canada. Examples of Gregor's former appointments include the President of the Canadian Disability Studies Association and a member of the executive committee of the Canadian Commission for UNESCO.