FORGING NEW FRONTIERS: THE INTERSECTION OF BIOETHICS AND BIOTECHNOLOGY LAW
SUNDAY, AUGUST 10, 2014 • 10:30 AM TO 12:00 PM
ROOM 207, LEVEL 2, HYNES CONVENTION CENTER, BOSTON, MA

SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES

GEORGE ANNAS is the William Fairfield Warren Distinguished Professor and Chair of the Department of Health Law, Bioethics & Human Rights of Boston University School of Public Health, and Professor in the Boston University School of Medicine, and School of Law. He is the cofounder of Global Lawyers and Physicians, a transnational professional association of lawyers and physicians working together to promote human rights and health. He has degrees from Harvard College (A.B. economics, ’67), Harvard Law School (J.D. ’70) and Harvard School of Public Health (M.P.H. ’72), where he was a Joseph P. Kennedy Fellow in Medical Ethics. After graduating from law school, he clerked for Justice John V. Spalding of the Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court, and came to Boston University in 1972 as the Director of the Center for Law and Health Sciences at the law school. Professor Annas is the author or editor of nineteen books on health law and bioethics, including Worst Case Bioethics: Death, Disaster, and Public Health (2010), American Bioethics: Crossing Human Rights and Health Law Boundaries (2005), The Rights of Patients (3d ed. 2004), and a play, entitled “Shelley’s Brain,” that has been presented to bioethics audiences across the U.S. and in Australia. Professor Annas has been called “the father of patient rights,” “the doyen of American medico-legal analysts,” and a “national treasure.” Professor Annas wrote a regular feature on “law and bioethics” for the Hastings Center Report from 1976 to 1991, and a regular feature on “Public Health and the Law” in the American Journal of Public Health from 1982 to 1992 and since 1991 has written a regular feature on “Legal Issues in Medicine” for the New England Journal of Medicine, now under the title “Health Law, Ethics, and Human Rights.” He is a fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, a member of the Institute of Medicine, vice-chair of the American Bar Association’s Committee on Health Rights and Bioethics (Individual Rights and Responsibilities Section) and a member of the Committee on Human Rights of the National Academy of Sciences. He has also held a variety of government regulatory posts, including Vice Chair of the Massachusetts Board of Registration in Medicine, Chair of the Massachusetts Health Facilities Appeals Board, and Chair of the Massachusetts Organ Transplant Task Force.

MICHAEL BENNETT, Associate Professor of Law at Northeastern University School of Law, teaches in the fields of contracts, intellectual property law, and law and technology. His National Science Foundation funded research focuses primarily on the nexus of law and emerging technologies, with a particular focus on nanotechnology. Professor Bennett also advises academic institutions on matters related to the generation of intellectual property, technology transfer and plagiarism.

Professor Bennett has taught at Vassar College, Michigan Technological University, Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, the University of Virginia and Florida A&M University. After graduating from Harvard Law School, he practiced as an associate at the Chicago law firm of Brinks Gilson &Lione.
VALERIE GUTMANN KOCH is Visiting Assistant Professor at IIT Chicago-Kent College of Law; Lecturer in Law, Medicine, and Ethics at the MacLean Center for Clinical Medical Ethics at the University of Chicago; and Special Advisor to the New York State Task Force on Life and the Law.

Valerie's teaching and research interests focus on the issues arising at the intersection of law, medicine and ethics. Prior to joining Chicago-Kent’s faculty, Professor Koch was the senior attorney to the New York State Task Force on Life and the Law, the state's bioethics commission, which was established by Governor Mario Cuomo to advise on significant public policy issues. In this role, she contributed to the Task Force's recommendations relating to the conduct of human subjects research involving adults who lack full decisional capacity, the allocation of scarce resources in the event of a pandemic influenza outbreak, surrogate decision-making for health care, the determination of brain death, and organ donation. She also provided ethical and legal research support to the Empire State Stem Cell Board.

From 2009 to 2010, Professor Koch was a member of the research faculty at Seton Hall School of Law's Center for Health & Pharmaceutical Law & Policy, where she co-authored two of the center’s white papers. There, her work focused on direct-to-consumer genetic testing, conflicts of interest in clinical research, Medicare pharmaceutical benefits, and board oversight of health care quality. Following law school, Professor Koch was an associate in Kirkland & Ellis LLP's Washington, D.C., office.

Professor Koch earned her J.D. degree from Harvard Law School, where she was editor-in-chief for the recent developments section of the Journal of Law, Medicine & Ethics. She graduated magna cum laude with an A.B. from Princeton University's Woodrow Wilson School of International Affairs and Public Policy, with a focus in bioethics.

SHEILA JASANOFF is Pforzheimer Professor of Science and Technology Studies at the Harvard Kennedy School. A pioneer in her field, she has authored more than 100 articles and chapters and is author or editor of a dozen books, including Controlling Chemicals, The Fifth Branch, Science at the Bar, and Designs on Nature. Her work explores the role of science and technology in the law, politics, and policy of modern democracies, with particular attention to the nature of public reason. She was founding chair of the STS Department at Cornell University and has held numerous distinguished visiting appointments in the US, Europe, and Japan. Jasanoff served on the Board of Directors of the American Association for the Advancement of Science and as President of the Society for Social Studies of Science. Her grants and awards include a 2010 Guggenheim Fellowship and an Ehrenkreuz from the Government of Austria. She holds AB, JD, and PhD degrees from Harvard, and an honorary doctorate from the University of Twente.
KAYHAN PARSİ is a tenured Professor of Bioethics & Health Policy at the Neiswanger Institute for Bioethics, Loyola University Chicago Stritch School of Medicine. He is also the Graduate Program Director of the online master’s and doctoral programs in bioethics. He is an active instructor in the Stritch School of Medicine and serves as an ethics consultant for the Loyola University Health System.

He has published in a number of journals (e.g., the American Journal of Bioethics, Hastings Center Report, and Journal of Clinical Ethics), co-edited Healing as Vocation: a Medical Professionalism Primer and has interests in clinical ethics, medical ethics education, professionalism and professional ethics, global health and justice, media and bioethics, and the history of medicine and bioethics. He has been an adjunct professor at Northwestern University Law School and UIC College of Medicine.

He was elected in 2006 and re-elected in 2007 to the nominating committee of the American Society for Bioethics and Humanities, the major professional organization for bioethicists and medical humanities scholars in the United States. He was elected in 2009 to a 3-year term to the Board of Directors of ASBH. He also served as a member of the Public Interest Panel of the Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education from 2004 to 2006. He served as the chair of the Council of Graduate School Programs at Loyola for the year 2007-2008. In 2009, he was invited to serve as a book review editor for the American Journal of Bioethics (AJOB). In 2012, he was invited to serve as an associate editor for AJOB.

From 1997 to 2001, he worked at the Institute for Ethics at the American Medical Association (AMA). As Director of Academic Affairs, he supervised the Institute's Fellowship and Externship Programs, as well as the seminar and lecture series. He was a senior editor for the Virtual Mentor, the ethics journal of the AMA. He received a BA from Rice University, JD from the University of Houston Law Center, and PhD in medical humanities from UTMB-Galveston.