



6th International Conference on Clinical Ethics Consultation

May 11-14, 2010 ♦ Portland Art Museum ♦ Portland, Oregon, USA

www.ethics2010.org



Abstract Submission Form – Papers

Please contact John Tuohey at ethics@providence.org with any questions.

Name: Lisa M. Rasmussen

Title/Degree: Assistant Professor, Ph.D.

Institution: University of North Carolina, Charlotte

Country: United States

Email: lrasmuss@uncc.edu

Phone including country code (<http://www.countrycallingcodes.com>): 704-687-6608

Proposed title of paper: Moral Expertise and Authority in Bioethics Consultation

Abstract with 3 clearly stated objectives in 250 words:

Objectives: At the conclusion of this presentation, participants will:

- 1) Recognize the relationship between moral authority and expertise in bioethics consultation.
- 2) Be able to explain what kinds of moral expertise bioethics consultation justifiably involves.
- 3) Be able to explain how certain kinds of authority follow from certain kinds of moral expertise.

Many argue that professionalization and a code of ethics is the only way to hold bioethics consultation accountable to some set of standards. But if we want to hold the field accountable, the immediate, vexing question is: accountable for what? What is it that bioethics consultants ought to do? We eventually arrive at the issue of moral expertise when we ask this, because while there are many possible answers to this question, a crucial component of bioethics consultation is the deployment of some kind of moral expertise. Moral expertise makes professional claims to authority regarding normative issues plausible: unless there is a special area of knowledge over which some but not all may claim mastery, and to which we hold some but not all accountable, there is no reason to deem some, but not all, “authorities” or “professionals.” However, there are many species of moral expertise that may be invoked in the field, only some of which are defensible. I analyze some of the possible areas of moral expertise in bioethics consultation and explain what authority, and thus what standards of accountability, may follow from them.

If you have or will publish on this topic, please cite reference:

Volume: Ethics Expertise: History, Contemporary Perspectives, and Applications (2005). Lisa M. Rasmussen (Ed.), Dordrecht: Springer.

Papers:

1) "Engineering, Gerrymandering and Expertise in Public Bioethics," HEC Forum 18(2), 2006, 125-130.

2) "Bioethics Consultation for Pharmaceutical Corporations," American Medical Association's Virtual Mentor (online journal), 8, 2006, 105-108.

3) "The Ethics and Aesthetics of For-Profit Bioethics Consultation," in Health Care Ethics Committee (HEC) Forum, 17(2), 2005, 94-121.

4) "Moral Diversity and Bioethics Consultation", in Bioethics and Moral Content: National Traditions of Health Care Morality. Papers Dedicated in Tribute to Kazumasa Hoshino (pp. 205-214). Lisa M. Rasmussen and H.T. Engelhardt, Jr. (Eds.). Dordrecht: Kluwer Academic Publishers, 2002.

5) Review of Christopher Meyers, A Practical Guide to Ethics Consulting: Expertise, Ethos and Power. Journal of Value Inquiry, forthcoming 2009.

Are you planning to or will you be willing to submit a poster along with your paper?

Yes No