

ORGANIZATIONAL ETHICS, INSTITUTIONAL POLICY, AND HEALTH LAW

DATE: September 29—October 1, 2023

TIME: Starts: Friday, September 29, 2023

11:00 AM Registration / Lunch

11:50 AM General Welcome

12:00 PM Opening Session

Ends: Sunday, October 1, 2023

12:00 PM Adjournment

LOCATION: Lakeview Golf Resort & Conference Center
Morgantown, WV

AUDIENCE: Physicians, Nurses, Social Workers, Pastoral Care and other Health Care Professionals with an interest in healthcare ethics.

PROGRAM OVERVIEW: This conference will provide an overview and discussion of organizational, professional, legal, and policy issues that arise in contemporary health care and clinical ethics services. It is aimed at providing health care and legal professionals with an introduction to the frameworks and skills needed to navigate the complex ethical and legal terrain through various clinical settings. Participants will gain practical experience in discerning the differences and similarities between ethical and legal resolutions of conflicts that occur in treatment decisions and organizational structures. Topics discussed will include advance directives, assessing decision-making capacity, selecting a surrogate decision maker, forgoing life sustaining treatment, utilization of new medical technologies, and health insurance regulation. Many presentations will use a case-based approach to maximize audience participation, and a mock court trial will simulate ethical and legal decision making in “real time.”

OVERALL OBJECTIVES: At the end of this conference, participants should be able to:

1. Understand the relationship between legal and ethical approaches in healthcare with respect to treatment decision making, including the issues of end-of-life decision making, informed consent, and assessing decision making capacity;
2. Articulate the legal and ethical perspectives regarding current societal issues in health care treatment, including advance care planning, religious objections/preferences to treatment and the right to receive or refuse health care treatment;
3. Discuss the legal and ethical issues raised in medical decision making for vulnerable populations.

In support of improving patient care, the University of Pittsburgh is jointly accredited by the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME), the Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education (ACPE), and the American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC), to provide continuing education for the healthcare team.

Physician (CME) - The University of Pittsburgh designates this live activity for a maximum of 12.5 AMA PRA Category 1 Credits™. Physicians should claim only the credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity.

Nursing (CNE) - The maximum number of hours awarded for this Continuing Nursing Education activity is 12.5 contact hours.

Social Work- As a Jointly Accredited Organization, University of Pittsburgh is approved to offer social work continuing education by the Association of Social Work Boards (ASWB) Approved Continuing Education (ACE) program. Organizations, not individual courses, are approved under this program. State and provincial regulatory boards have the final authority to determine whether an individual course may be accepted for continuing education credit. University of Pittsburgh maintains responsibility for this course. Social workers completing this course receive 12.5 continuing education credits.

Other health care professionals will receive a certificate of attendance confirming the number of contact hours commensurate with the extent of participation in this activity.

DISCLAIMER STATEMENT

The information presented at this CME program represents the views and opinions of the individual presenters, and does not constitute the opinion or endorsement of, or promotion by, the UPMC Center for Continuing Education in the Health Sciences, UPMC / University of Pittsburgh Medical Center or Affiliates and University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine. Reasonable efforts have been taken intending for educational subject matter to be presented in a balanced, unbiased fashion and in compliance with regulatory requirements. However, each program attendee must always use his/her own personal and professional judgment when considering further application of this information, particularly as it may relate to patient diagnostic or treatment decisions including, without limitation, FDA-approved uses and any off-label uses.

FACULTY DISCLOSURE

No members of the planning committee, speakers, presenters, authors, content reviewers and/or anyone else in a position to control the content of this education activity have relevant financial relationships with any companies whose primary business is producing, marketing, selling, re-selling, or distributing healthcare products used by or on patients.

Organizational Ethics, Institutional Policy, and Health Law

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 29		
11:00 AM	Registration	Governor's Ballroom
11:50 AM—12:00 PM	Welcome & Introductions Michael Deem and Jody Stockdill	Governor's Ballroom 2
12:00 PM—1:10 PM	The Ethicist Stands Alone — The Intersection of Law, Ethics and Policy Claire Horner, JD, MA, HEC-C Abstract: Much has changed in medicine and society in the last few years. From the reversal of Roe v. Wade to the implementation of mask and vaccine mandates in response to the pandemic, laws, policies, and societal attitudes have shifted dramatically. This has led to a change in both medical practice and trust in science, leaving the ethicist often caught in the middle. In this talk, Professor Horner will discuss her experience as a clinical ethicist and medical educator in Texas, one of the states in which laws governing medicine have changed most dramatically in recent years. She will explore how ethicists have had to navigate the local and state political battles while maintaining their professional roles. In particular she will ask whether the ethicist's role is to stand by the bedside, or to step into the public sphere – and if the answer is both, how do we navigate these dual roles while maintaining public trust in what we do?	Governor's Ballroom 2
1:10 PM—1:20 PM	Break	
1:20 PM—2:30 PM	CONCURRENT SESSIONS: Session 1A: State v. Federal Court Jurisdiction: What's the Difference and Why Does it Matter? Pete Giglione, Esq. Abstract: There are two separate and distinct state and federal court systems where medical-related cases are brought and tried. This presentation will cover the differences between those two court systems, and why and how cases are filed and litigated in each one.	Governor's Ballroom 1
	Session 1B: Healthcare Ethics and Quality: The Search for Quality Outcomes in Ethics Decisions Greg Dober, MA Abstract: Organizational ethics is an important part of quality management. Organizations are expected to operate ethically and meet certain standards and expectations. By doing so, they demonstrate a commitment to quality and create a positive environment where workers can feel safe and happy performing their duties. Quality processes are designed to ensure that the organization meets organizational ethics standards and that quality products, services, and processes are developed in accordance with ethical standards. Quality and organizational ethics must work together to produce a successful, well-run organization. Healthcare ethics consultations and committees need to ensure quality processes for outcomes that are satisfactory to the stakeholders."	Governor's Ballroom 2
2:30 PM—2:35 PM	Break	
2:35 PM—3:45 PM	CONCURRENT SESSIONS: Session 2A: Medical Malpractice and the Benevolent Gesture Medical Professional Liability Act Mike Gianantonio, Esq. Abstract: During this presentation we will look at medical malpractice from the legal/risk management perspective and examine the admissibility of benevolent gestures (apology, condolence, explanation, compassion, commiseration) as negligence, fault, or liability. We will examine the role of the nurse and other healthcare professionals in a medical malpractice case and discuss the effect that medical malpractice has on health care in general.	Governor's Ballroom 1
	Session 2B: Tips and Tricks in the Process of Policy Development Claire Horner, JD, MA, HEC-C Abstract: Ethics committees are essential to the process of policy development, especially for policies related to medical decision-making, end of life care, and other topics that rely on ethical concepts. In this session, participants will learn strategies for identifying policy needs; drafting policies, procedures and guidelines; and implementing the finished products. Additionally, participants will discuss political and practical difficulties in navigating policy development and explore best practices for their own institutions.	Governor's Ballroom 2

3:45 pm—3:50 pm	Break	
3:50 PM—5:00 pm	Health Insurance in the United States: Determining Where to Go by Examining Where We've Been Grant Martsolf, PhD, MPH, RN, FAAN Abstract: Getting sick can be costly. For the last 150 years, civil society, government, and market actors have devised strategies to assist individuals and families in covering expenses and lost income related to illness. To this day, Americans rank illness-related costs as a top political priority just below economic growth. Many Americans are advocating for comprehensive and systematic reforms in health finance. To comprehend this discontent and chart a way forward, it is imperative to examine the history, politics, and values that have shaped our current financial system. In this talk, Dr. Martsolf will provide a history of how the American health insurance system emerged and the competing values that shaped this history. He will then use relevant ethical principles to critique the health insurance system that we have in the United States. He will conclude his talk by highlighting niche innovative approaches to health insurance that attempt to address some of the ethical shortcomings of our current system.	Governor's Ballroom 2
5:00 PM	Adjourn for the day	
SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 30		
8:00 AM	Continental Breakfast / Registration	Governor's Ballroom Foyer
8:30 AM—9:40 am	How to Deal with Family Requests For Treatment You Think Are Unreasonable Robert Arnold, MD Abstract: As a healthcare provider it is not uncommon to encounter patients or families who request treatments that we feel are unreasonable or inappropriate. During this session we will discuss factors that might lead to requests for inappropriate interventions and treatments; and will explore strategies to best manage those requests.	Governor's Ballroom 2
9:40 am—9:50 am	Break	
9:50 am —11:00 am	CONCURRENT SESSIONS: Session 3A: Medical Chaperones and the Surrounding Ethical Issues Cynthia McCarthy, MA, DHCE, NREMT Abstract: Seven states in the United States have mandated medical chaperones. The American Medical Association recommends the use of a medical chaperone for all intimate exams. Despite these endorsements, the medical chaperone system is riddled with practical complications and ethical issues. This presentation will explore those ethical issues and allow for an open conversation about how to move forward regarding this topic.	Governor's Ballroom 1
	Session 3B: Organizational Ethics & What's at Stake Paul Lim, MSW, MBA Abstract: With the controversial and ethical topics of today, Organizational Ethics has a pivotal role in the workplace more than ever before, even though it is the area of ethics that is discussed the least. Non-government health care and social welfare organizations must define themselves not just by the work they do, but the way they do it in how they respond to the pressing ethical, legal, and policy issues of our time (mandatory vaccinations, abortion, transgender issues, etc.). Organizational stakeholders - employees, patients, consumers, and benefactors are looking for this type of decision-making now that it impacts the success, or the failure, of your organization.	Governor's Ballroom 2
11:00 am—11:10 am	Break	

11:10 AM —12:15 PM	CONCURRENT SESSIONS: Session 4A: What is Health Care and Why Does it Matter? Grant Martsolf, PhD, MPH, RN, FAAN <p>Abstract: Hidden at the very middle of every bioethical controversy including abortion, gender reassignment surgery and physician assisted suicide and even less controversial issues, such as cosmetic surgery and Lasix, is this central question of "What is health care anyway?" This is not merely an academic and abstract question for nurses. The concepts of health and care are central to the very self-understanding of the entire nursing profession. If we get these terms wrong, we are at best practicing outside of our scope. At the worst, we may be participating in acts that degrade health or impede care which is an assault to the very nature of the discipline. However, the challenge comes in how we define these terms. In his talk, Dr. Martsolf will discuss two common approaches to understanding the words "health" and "care" and the ways in which these two conceptualizations would result in different conclusions about the moral status of some of the most controversial bioethical controversies. He will conclude with a discussion of the implications that these approaches have for health care delivery especially within the context of professional nursing.</p>	Governor's Ballroom 1
	Session 4B: Artificial Intelligence in Health Care: Some Challenges Alex London, PhD <p>Abstract: This talk will examine the entry of artificial intelligence into health care and the role of machine learning and large data sets in developing systems that can perform decision making tasks that previously required a human expert. We will discuss the worry that such systems can be subject to bias and strive to understand some of the unique challenges posed by validating their performance.</p>	Governor's Ballroom 2
12:15 PM —12:45 PM	Lunch	Governor's Ballroom 3 & 4
12:45 PM—2:00 PM	Genetic Information Nondiscrimination Act (GINA): History, Goals, and Considerations Jodie Vento, MGC, LCGC <p>Abstract: In this presentation, we will explore the history and goals of the Genetic Information Nondiscrimination Act (GINA). Through case examples and discussion, we will describe the protections and limitations of GINA as it relates to employment and health insurance. Additionally, we will address the implications of GINA on clinical practice and patient decision-making.</p>	Governor's Ballroom 3 & 4
2:00 PM	Adjourn for the Day	
SUNDAY, OCTOBER 1		
8:00 AM	Continental Breakfast and Registration	Governor's Ballroom 2
8:30 AM—9:30 AM	Foundations of the Provider-Patient Relationship: After Paternalism, The Deluge Alex John London, PhD <p>Abstract: Modern medical ethics began with the rejection of medical paternalism—the idea that healthcare providers should have the power and permission to limit the freedom and autonomy of patients if doing so is necessary to promote the health of the patient. The rejection of this position does not necessarily entail a specific alternative, and different views about the nature of patient autonomy support different models of the provider-patient relationship. This talk explores key aspects of this issue with the goal of trying to identify a model that genuinely promotes patient autonomy while empowering physicians to use their medical knowledge to help patients promote their best interests.</p>	Governor's Ballroom 2
9:40 AM—11:50 AM	Mock Trial: Keating v Alastor City University Hospital Pete Giglione, Esq., Mike Gianantonio, Esq., Robert F. Daley, Esq. <p>Abstract: This session will provide an opportunity to participate, from a jurors perspective, in a simulated law suit that involves two physicians who allegedly took a patient's stem cells for treatment purposes. They later utilized those same cells to create a cell line from which they received a patent and created a successful treatment which they sold to a pharmaceutical company and profited millions of dollars. The patients family is claiming that the physicians had not supplied informed consent to take or use their daughter's stem cells for research purposes and are seeking a portion of the profits and future royalties from the sale of the treatment.</p>	Governor's Ballroom 1
11:50 AM—12:00 PM	Wrap-up and Evaluation	
12:00 PM	Conference Adjournment	

FACULTY BIOGRAPHIES

COURSE DIRECTOR:

Michael J. Deem, PhD joined the faculty of University of Pittsburgh in Fall 2021. He completed a PhD in philosophy at the University of Notre Dame, and the Pediatric Ethics and Genomics Fellowship at Children's Mercy Hospital. Dr. Deem's primary research interests lie in bioethics (especially pediatric ethics and ethical issues in genetics/genomic medicine), philosophy of biology and medicine, and public health ethics. Having taught ethics to genetic counseling, nursing, and medical students for several years, he also pursues research on interprofessional ethics education. Dr. Deem teaches in the Center for Bioethics & Health Law's Master of Arts in Bioethics program, teaches graduate ethics courses for the Department of Human Genetics' MS Genetic Counseling and MPH in Public Health Genetics programs, teaches undergraduate ethics courses for the Rehabilitation Science program (School of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences), and directs Pitt's Consortium Ethics Program.

FACULTY:

Robert M. Arnold, MD specializes in palliative care and is board-certified by the American Board of Internal Medicine in Hospice and Palliative Medicine. He is the Medical Director of UPMC Palliative and Supportive Institute and is a Professor in the Division of General Internal Medicine at the University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine. He received his medical degree from University of Missouri, Kansas City School of Medicine and completed his residency in internal medicine at Rhode Island Hospital, Providence and was a Robert Wood Johnson Clinical Scholar, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia. Dr. Arnold's clinical interests focus on providing palliative care consults in a tertiary care hospital and working in a supportive oncology ambulatory practice. His research interests focus on how clinicians operationalize ethical precepts in the care of seriously ill patients. He works at the interface of communication skills, training, medical ethics, and palliative care, all in the effort to improve clinicians' skills. Current research focuses on teaching palliative care communication skills to clinicians using both face-to-face courses and new technologies and on understanding the impact of these educational interventions. He also works with junior investigators to better understand the impact of primary palliative care interventions in oncology and cardiology. Finally, Dr. Arnold is interested in studying health system interventions to improve seriously ill patients' and families' experiences. In 2000, Dr. Arnold was named the first Leo H. Creip Chair of Patient Care and he is the past-president of the American Academy of Hospice and Palliative Medicine (AAHPM). He has been named to numerous "top doctor" lists both locally and nationally, and was awarded the AAPMH Lifetime Achievement award in 2013 and AAHPM Visionary in Palliative Care Award in 2014.

Robert F. Daley, Esq. takes a simple approach to the practice of law—always put each client's interest first. He believes in treating every client with respect and dignity and in working hard to see that justice is done. Bob's 20 years of experience have given him a unique ability to see the big picture in any case and to anticipate outcomes before they occur. He has produced groundbreaking changes to national health care law and asbestos law through more than 20 appellate arguments before the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania, the Supreme Court of West Virginia, the Superior Court of Pennsylvania, and the Commonwealth Court of Pennsylvania. In daily practice, Bob manages and litigates nursing home cases, asbestos cases, complex litigation, and class actions and has recovered more than \$100 million dollars for his clients through negotiating settlements and winning verdicts.

Bob pivoted his career after working as a chemical engineer for eight years, following his graduation from the University of Dayton. In 1995, he switched gears and headed to Duquesne University School of Law to begin a career where he could work with real people who have real problems, one on one. Bob served as a senior staff member on the Duquesne University Law Review and graduated cum laude in 1998. He then joined Robert Peirce & Associates and has been there ever since.

Over the past two decades, Bob has been working at the forefront of Nursing Home Litigation in the United States. Throughout his career, Bob has been dedicated to preserving and expanding the Constitutional Right to Trial by Jury, a bedrock principle of the United States and the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. Through his appellate advocacy, Bob has opened the Courthouse doors to people who previously were denied the right to Trial by Jury, and in doing so has ensured that a fundamental right of our society is both preserved and respected.

Gregory Dober, MA is an adjunct professor at Lake Erie College of Osteopathic Medicine in the graduate biomedical ethics program. Dober, as an instructor with CEP, has taught clinical, research and organizational ethics to various ethic committees' and their members across western Pennsylvania. He obtained his Master of Arts in Bioethics and Health Policy from Loyola University of Chicago in Illinois and Master of Arts in Health Care Ethics at Duquesne University in Pittsburgh. Greg is a co-author of *Against Their Will: The Secret History of Medical Experimentation on Children In Cold War America* published by Palgrave-McMillan in 2013. In addition, he is an executive producer of the short film, *Willowbrook*, a medical research short drama, which debuted at the Tribeca Film Festival and won a best short film award at the Boston Film Festival in 2012.

A. Michael Gianantonio, Esq is an attorney with Friday & Cox and specializes in medical malpractice and catastrophic injury cases. Mike has taught expert evidence at the Cyril H. Wecht Institute of Forensic Science & Law and trial advocacy at Duquesne University School of Law. He is currently Pitt Law School's Director of Trial Advocacy where he oversees the development of law students into trial lawyers. Over the last two decades that Mike has been involved in teaching, his trial teams have won several national championships. Mike is an elected member of Allegheny County Academy of Trial Lawyers, which comprises the best trial attorneys in Pittsburgh, and is actively involved with the American Association for Justice, Pennsylvania Association for Justice, and Western Pennsylvania Trial Lawyers Association.

Peter D. Giglione, Esq., is a partner with Massa Butler Giglione. Prior to joining Massa, Butler & Giglione, 'Pete' worked for a large, national law firm, where he tried multiple nursing home abuse and neglect cases and other types of lawsuits in numerous courts. Pete has won millions of Dollars in verdicts and settlements for his clients. While his practice has focused primarily on representing victims of nursing home abuse and neglect and their families, Pete also represents plaintiffs of all ages in other types of cases, including automobile collisions, premises liability, consumer protection, medical malpractice, vaccine injury, and products liability.

Starting in 2010 and continuing through 2017, Pete's peers voted him as a "Rising Star" in the Pennsylvania Super Lawyers rankings. In 2018, he was named a Pennsylvania Super Lawyer – an honor awarded to no more than 2.5 percent of all practicing attorneys in Pennsylvania. In 2013, he was named a "Top 40 under 40" trial lawyers in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania by The National Trial Lawyers organization. That same year he was inducted into the prestigious Academy of Trial Lawyers of Allegheny County, an invitation-only group limited to 200 active members.

Pete is licensed to practice law in Pennsylvania, Ohio, and West Virginia. He has successfully argued appeals before the Pennsylvania Superior and Supreme Courts. Pete frequently lectures at Legal Education seminars related to nursing home and medical malpractice cases, and he also speaks at healthcare ethics conferences. He has served as a faculty member of the Pennsylvania Bar Institute, the Allegheny County Bar Association, the Pennsylvania Association for Justice, the University of Pittsburgh Consortium Ethics Program, and in 2012 for the Pennsylvania Conference of State Trial Court Judges.

Pete is currently an adjunct Professor of Law at Duquesne University in Pittsburgh, where he serves as Director of the Trial Advocacy Program, overseeing all Trial Advocacy courses and the law school's Trial Moot Court Program. He also teaches the Legal Issues in Healthcare course to undergraduates, Masters and Doctorate degree candidates, and Trial Advocacy courses to second and third-year law students, at Duquesne University School of Law.

Claire Horner, JD, MA, HEC-C is an Assistant Professor in the Center for Medical Ethics & Health Policy at Baylor College of Medicine in Houston, TX, and directs the Clinical Ethics Program at Baylor St. Luke's Medical Center. She earned her JD and MA in Bioethics from the University of Pittsburgh, and completed her clinical ethics fellowship at Albany Medical College. She is a leader in UME ethics education at BCM, and is passionate about her work in the areas of reproductive ethics, law, clinical ethics consultation, and Catholic bioethics.

Paul Lim, MSW, MBA, Paul Christopher Lim is a hospital executive with significant care management experience. After several years as a staff social worker at UPMC St Margaret, he became their Supervisor of Social Work in 2015, and then the Director of the Care Management Department in 2019. In June 2021, he transitioned to WVU Medicine as the Vice President for Mission Integration at Wheeling Hospital. His primary focus is to ensure mission integrity with the hospital's Catholic identity in all its processes and provides direction for value-based decisions in organizational decision-making. He also provides executive oversight for the Pastoral Care, Care Management, and Social Work services lines.

Paul is a licensed social worker with certifications as an Accredited Case Manager and in Critical Incident Stress Management. He holds a Master of Social Work from the University of Pittsburgh School of Social Work and a Master of Business Administration from Chatham University. He was ordained a deacon for the Catholic Diocese of Pittsburgh in 2020.

Alex John London PhD is the K&L Gates Professor of Ethics and Computational Technologies, Director of the Center for Ethics and Policy at Carnegie Mellon University, and Chief Ethicist at the Block Center for Technology and Society at Carnegie Mellon University. An elected Fellow of the Hastings Center, Professor London's work focuses on ethical and policy issues surrounding the development and deployment of novel technologies in medicine, biotechnology and artificial intelligence, on methodological issues in theoretical and practical ethics, and on cross-national issues of justice and fairness. His book, *For the Common Good: Philosophical Foundations of Research Ethics* is available in hard copy from Oxford University Press. His papers have appeared in *Mind*, *The Philosopher's Imprint*, *Science*, *JAMA*, *The Lancet*, *The BMJ*, *PLoS Medicine*, *Statistics In Medicine*, *The Hastings Center Report*, and numerous other journals and collections. He is also co-editor of *Ethical Issues in Modern Medicine*, one of the most widely used textbooks in medical ethics.

Grant R. Martsof, PhD, MPH, RN, FAAN, is a nursing health services researcher and public policy expert. He is currently a Professor and UPMC Health Systems Chair in Nursing Science at University of Pittsburgh School of Nursing and a Policy Researcher at the RAND Corporation. Although his research focuses on a wide variety of policy issues, he has a particular research interest in primary care payment and innovation as well as educational, organization, and regulatory issues related to advanced practice nursing. He has received funding to study these and related topics from a variety of federal, state, and foundation funders. Dr. Martsof holds a PhD from Penn State University in Health Policy and Administration, master's degree in public health from Tulane University, and joint bachelor's degrees in nursing and economics from the University of Pennsylvania.

Cynthia McCarthy, DHCE, MA, NREMT, is a bioethicist specializing in health care ethics. She is the director of the undergraduate Bioethics Certificate in the School of Public Health. She has been teaching bioethics to pre-health care professionals/pre-med professionals since 1999 and has been a faculty member at the University of Pittsburgh since 2009. She teaches undergraduate classes for several programs including the Bachelor of Science in Public Health, the Athletic Training Program in the School of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences and the College of General Studies. She specializes in topics related to direct patient/client interactions, research ethics and organ donation.

McCarthy's consulting work over the course of the last 20+ years has focused on ethics education of health care professionals, behavioral health accreditation, ethics committee work and National Institute of Health Data and Safety Monitoring Boards. She is an ethics consultant to Pitt's Institutional Review Board and the Ethics Facilitator for the University of Pittsburgh's Clinical and Translational Science Institute. She is a faculty fellow in the Frederick Honors College, coach/advisor for the University of Pittsburgh's Bioethics Bowl Club, and author/advisor of Ethics in Action, outside the classroom educational sessions related to ethical issues in public health, research and health sciences. Each session (12 per year) includes a seminar and an applied learning experience.

Jodie Vento, MGC, LCGC has extensive clinical experience in pediatric genetics and rare diseases with a strong background in management, research and assessment of access issues related to genetic counseling and testing. Jodie is the Insurance Alignment Committee Chair for the Patient-Centered Laboratory Guidance Services (PLUGS) Group out of Seattle Children's Hospital. Jodie is also an active member of NSGC and is currently on the Board of Directors. In her role at NSGC, she has served as the chair of the Access and Service Delivery committee and the co-chair of the Test Utilization Subcommittee within the Industry SIG. Jodie is also the Founder and Past President of the Pennsylvania Association of Genetic Counselors. Jodie serves as the Genetics Faculty for the Leadership Education in Neurodevelopmental Disabilities and Related Disorders (LEND) Program at the University of Pittsburgh. Throughout her career, Jodie has worked closely with rare disease community and will continue this work through the Pennsylvania Rare Disease Advisory Council (PARDAC).

Jodie's teaching interests are in genetic testing technologies, neurogenetics, psychosocial counseling and general pediatrics. Her research interests include rare disease, access to genomic services, and payer policies.