

# PROFESSIONAL and ETHICAL ISSUES IN BIOMEDICAL RESEARCH

## Neurosciences Graduate Program Seminar 797 Winter Quarter, 2004

**Contents:** Introduction to professional and ethical issues confronting biomedical research and researchers and approaches to dealing with such issues.

**Prerequisites:** graduate standing in the Neurosciences Graduate Program or permission of the instructor

**Objectives:** After completing this course the student will:

- have an understanding of some the professional and ethical issues in biomedical research;
- have developed a rational approach for dealing with such issues;
- be familiar with some professional and University resources for addressing ethical and professional issues; and
- be able to apply a reasoned approach when faced with an ethical or professional dilemma.

**Credits:** Successful completion of this class will be rewarded with 1 graduate credit.

**Meeting time/place:** One one-hour class/week on Wednesdays from 2:30 – 3:30 pm.

**Location:** 4078 Graves Hall (Neuroscience Conference Room)

### **Class Structure:**

The course is discussion-based, with a small lecture component. Class participation is essential. Students are required to use WebCT to access course materials at <https://enigma.optometry.ohio-state.edu/>. The website will have introductory reading material, sample cases, and a brief problem, questionnaire or scenario that will appear as a quiz available through the "Question of the Week" icon. Each quiz will be available for 5 days before the Wednesday class, becoming available at 6pm on Thursday and closing at midnight on Monday. Prior to each class, students are to read the materials and respond to the quiz. There is no quiz for the first class, although there will be assigned reading – watch your mailbox.


Each class will include:

- a brief introductory lecture by the faculty
- faculty-facilitated discussion of the web cases, quiz results, and assigned readings

**Grading:** The course is graded Pass/Fail

To achieve a grade of "Pass", students must attend classes, participate in the discussions, and submit answers to each "Question of the Week". Students may miss two class periods without penalty or explanation. Missing more than two classes requires that the absence be deemed excusable by the course coordinator in order to receive a passing grade. Examples of excusable absences would include illness (self or child), a death in the family, attending a national meeting etc. Please plan your laboratory work accordingly.

**Email Policy:** The course coordinator may communicate additional class information to students through the university email system and will use the email addresses assigned by the university (typically lastname.x@osu.edu) and provided by the registrar on the official class roster. **Students are responsible for checking their university email or for being certain that their university email is forwarded to their ISP.** "I didn't get the email" will not be an acceptable excuse.

**Faculty:** Lynne E. Olson, PhD (Course Coordinator)  
Professor of Veterinary Biosciences  
  
Medicine Academic Bldg.  
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along with participating faculty from the Neurosciences Graduate Program (see below).

#### **Course Outline**

- January 7 Definition of ethics; Fundamental issues  
Dr. Georgia Bishop
- January 14 Norms, values, conduct and misconduct  
Dr. Karl Obrietan
- January 21 Mentoring and the choice of a research laboratory  
Dr. Glenn Lin
- January 28 Ownership of ideas/plagiarism, Intellectual property  
Dr. Jack Enyeart
- February 4 Authorship, credit, citations  
Dr. John Buford
- February 11 Peer review; Conflict of interest and commitment; Confidentiality  
Dr. John Oberdick
- February 18 Ethical issues involving animal experimentation  
Dr. Randy Nelson

February 25 Ethical issues involving human subjects research  
Dr. Jeff Kuret

March 3 Disagreement, dispute, managing conflicts, whistle-blowing  
Dr. Tony Brown and Dr. Firdaus Dhabhar

March 10 Stem cell research  
Dr. Tom Boyd