CONFERENCE PROGRAM

The Columbia University Seminar on Death
The Third Austin H. Kutscher Memorial Conference

*Reshaping Our Journey to the End –
Death, Dying and Bereavement in 21st Century America*

Saturday, March 24, 2012
Faculty House, Columbia University

8:00-8:45  REGISTRATION – Continental breakfast

8:45-8:55  WELCOME

9:00-10:45 (Two panels - 4 papers of 20 minutes each + 25 minute discussion)

**Evolving Strategies - “Dying in the 21st Century”**

“Ensuring a Good Death – English Policy for and Experiences of End-of-life Care”
Erica Borgstrom (University of Cambridge)

“Dying Persons and Their Families”
Margaret Souza (Empire State College)

“Opportunities and Obstacles Towards Postponing Death and Postponing Dying”
Jerry Thomas Nessel (Addiction Research and Treatment Corporation)

“Conspicuous Metabolism: Life-extension and Life-support as Luxury Goods”
Kevin T. Keith (Columbia University Seminars)

**Dying and Death in the Social and Medical System**

“Pre-mortem Liminality: A Post-modern Condition”
Donald Joralemon (Smith College)

“A Tolling Bell for Public Health: Care of the Dying as a Civic Practice”
Bruce Jennings (Center for Humans and Nature)

“Evolving Changes in Child and Adolescent Mortality as Influenced by Medical Progress, Changes in Society and Our Culture”
Nathan Ionascu (Columbia University Seminars)

“End-of-life Care: The Need to Rethink a Philosophical and Management Problem”
Daniel Callahan (The Hastings Center)
10:50-12:15  (Two Panels - 3 papers of 20 minutes each +25 minute discussion)

**New Directions in the Psychology of Death and Dying**

- “Fear of the Dead, Fear of Death, and Religion: Biological or Psychological?”
  Benjamin Beit-Hallahmi (University of Haifa)
- “Kierkegaard’s Sickness unto Death (or, What Rational Philosophy Cannot Tell Us About Death in the 21st Century)”
  Jerry S. Piven (Columbia University Seminars)
- “Darwin, Nietzsche and Freud’s Legacy (or, What Neuroscience of the Lateralized Brain Might Tell Us about Living with Death in the 21st Century)”
  J. C. Smith (University of British Columbia)

**Narratives in the Service of Death and Bereavement**

- “Stories of the End: A Narrative Medicine Curriculum to Reframe Death and Dying”
  Marsha Hurst (Columbia University) and Craig Irvine (Columbia University)
- “Virtual Mourning: Shifting Discourses of Bereavement and the Internet”
  Candi K. Cann (Baylor University)
- “Dead Girls Onscreen in the 21st Century”
  Marcelline Block (Princeton University)

12:15-12:45 PM  **LUNCH**

12:45–1:30 PM  **KEY NOTE ADDRESS**

  James W. Green (University of Washington)

1:30- 1:45 PM  **Q and A with Keynote speaker**
1:50-3:15  (2 Panels - 3 papers of 20 minutes each + 25 minute discussion)

**Corporal Metamorphosis and Physical Imprints**

“Life After Death: Re-conceiving Civic Infrastructures of Remembrance”
Karla Maria Rothstein (Columbia University)

“Permanent Ephemera: Memory, Forgetting and Editorialized Recall”
Angela Riechers (New York University)

"Roadside Memorialization at the Place of Death: 21st Century US Policy”
George Dickinson (College of Charleston) with Heath Hoffmann (College of Charleston)

**Ethical Implications of Decision Making**

“Termination of End-of-life Care: Informed Consent Has Become Family Consent”
Lawrence Frolik (University of Pittsburgh)

“Assisted Suicide in the Age of AIDS and the Age of Alzheimer's Disease”
Michael Teitelman (Columbia University)

“Death and Discrepancy Between Hippocratic and Veterinary Oaths: Ethical and Psychological Implications”
Sara Waller (Montana State University, College of Letters & Science) and Omar Shehryar (Montana State University, College of Business)

3:20-3:30 PM CONCLUDING REMARKS

* **COST** (including continental breakfast and lunch):
  - $35/person
  - Speaker, or Early Registration (before March 10) $25/person
  - Students $15

* **LODGING**: Travel and lodging are the responsibility of the attendees and, unfortunately, the Seminar Committee is unable to assist. However, attached to this program, you will find a listing of area hotels, their rates and contact information. Rooms in the area fill up quickly, so early reservation is recommended.