



DIABETES: SOLUTIONS FOR THE 21ST CENTURY
**A CONFERENCE ON DIABETES RESEARCH, ECONOMICS, POLICY
AND ETHICS**

APRIL 18, 2008

9:00A.M. – 6:00P.M.

CHICAGO-KENT COLLEGE OF LAW
ILLINOIS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY
565 W. ADAMS ST.
CHICAGO, IL 60661

SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES



Nigel Cameron

Nigel M. de S. Cameron, Ph.D., M.B.A., is Research Professor and Associate Dean at Chicago-Kent College of Law in the Illinois Institute of Technology and Director of the IIT Center on Nanotechnology and Society. Cameron founded the journal *Ethics and Medicine* in 1983, has been widely published on technology policy and ethics issues, and has appeared as a commentator on network television including *ABC World News*, *ABC Nightline*, CNN, *PBS Frontline* and the BBC. His books include *The New Medicine: Life and Death after Hippocrates* (1992) and *Nanoscale: Issues and Perspectives for the Nano Century* (ed. with M. Ellen Mitchell, 2007). He has been a visiting scholar at UBS Wolfsberg in Switzerland, a featured speaker at the Aspen Ideas Festival and the Aspen Health Forum, and a participant in the US/European Commission dialogue on Perspectives on the Future of Science and Technology. He serves on the advisory boards of the World Healthcare Innovation and Technology Congress, the *Nano Law and Business Journal* and the Converging Technologies Bar Association. He has also represented the United States as bioethics adviser on US delegations to the United Nations, and is currently a member of the United States National Commission for UNESCO. A native of the United Kingdom, he has studied at Cambridge and Edinburgh universities and the Edinburgh Business School.



Edward Kraus

Edward Kraus, J.D., joined the clinical faculty as Associate Professor of Clinical Practice at Chicago-Kent College of Law in 1999. Prior to joining the Chicago-Kent faculty, he was an attorney at the law firm of Plokin, Jacobs & Orlofsky Ltd., where he specialized in complex civil litigation and consumer class actions. From the beginning of 1996 through 1997, Professor Kraus was the policy director for the Jewish Council of Urban Affairs, where he directed advocacy and policy efforts addressing social and economic justice issues in Chicago. From 1993 to 1996, he was a staff attorney for Legal Action of Wisconsin, where he represented low-income clients in a variety of civil matters, including public benefits, special education and Medicaid. Professor Kraus received a B.A. in English from the University of Michigan and a J.D. from Georgetown University Law Center. Since 1999, he has been the supervising attorney for Chicago-Kent's Health & Disability Law Clinic, where he represents individuals in a variety of civil matters, including Social Security disability law, long-term disability benefits, disability discrimination, vaccine injury claims and employment disputes. Beginning in September 2007, Professor Kraus has focused part of his practice on representing and advocating for individuals with diabetes in education, employment and insurance matters. He teaches Consumer Health Benefits and Disability Law at Chicago-Kent.



Rochelle Rollins

Rochelle L. Rollins, Ph.D., M.P.H., is Acting Director of the Division of Policy and Data in the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) Office of Minority Health (OMH) where she oversees efforts to improve the quality and availability of health data on racial and ethnic minorities, coordinate evaluations, increase minority participation in clinical trials and prepare health policy and legislative reports. Prior to joining OMH, Dr. Rollins served for three years as the Special Assistant to the Deputy Director of the National Institutes of Health / National Cancer Institute. At the National Cancer Institute, she chaired the DHHS Health Disparities Council's Subcommittee on Cancer and worked on projects to improve access to affordable and high quality cancer care. Dr. Rollins has served as a lead on several cancer initiatives at the DHHS/Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA). She co-wrote HRSA's first Cancer Action Plan that included a Cancer Collaborative designed to galvanize health community health centers to excel in cancer screening, diagnosis and referral for treatment. She also coordinated the C-Change Access to Quality Cancer Care Team and represented HRSA on several Federal and other cancer boards and committees. Dr. Rollins' other areas of interest include substance abuse prevention, mental health and HIV/AIDS. Early in her career, she was the Research Director of the Multicultural AIDS Coalition in Boston, Massachusetts where she advocated for in the inclusion of more people of color in AIDS clinical trials. Dr. Rollins received her undergraduate degree from Wellesley College, her Masters of Public Health from Boston University and her doctorate from Brandeis University's Heller School for Social Policy and Management.



Laurie Zoloth

Laurie Zoloth, Ph.D., is Director of the Center for Bioethics, Science and Society, and a Professor of Medical Ethics and Humanities at Northwestern University, Feinberg School of Medicine, and a Professor of Religion at Northwestern University, Weinberg College of Arts and Science. Dr. Zoloth's work at the Center for Bioethics, Science and Society is done in tandem with several bodies, including the Center for Genetic Medicine, the Center for Regenerative Medicine, the Oncofertility Consortium, the Women's Health Research Institute and the International Institute for Nanotechnology. Her current research projects include work on emerging issues in medical and research genetics, nanotechnology, neuroscience and ethical issues in stem cell research. Some of her continuing research includes issues in distributive justice in health care. She served as a two-term member of the NASA National Advisory Council, a civilian advisory board for NASA. She currently serves on the NASA's Interagency National Animal Care and Use Committee and NASA Planetary Protection Advisory Committee. She was a founding board member and currently serves on the boards of the International Society for Stem Cell Research, the Society for Scriptural Reasoning and the Society for Neuroethics. She is an executive board member of the Society for Women's Health Research and the Chair of the Howard Hughes Medical Institute's Bioethics Advisory Board.



Richard K. Burt

Richard K. Burt, M.D. is the Chief of the Division of Immunotherapy and Autoimmune Diseases at Northwestern University. Dr. Burt has worked at the National Cancer Institute and the National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute of the National Institutes of Health. He has authored and co-authored more than 80 scientific publications and is the Editor of three medical books. Dr. Burt pioneered the field of stem cell therapy for autoimmune diseases, doing the first hematopoietic stem cell transplants in either the world or in America for multiple sclerosis, lupus, Crohn's disease, rheumatoid arthritis, behcets, sjogren's, Wegner's disease, myasthenia gravis, chronic inflammatory demyelinating polyneuropathy and autoimmune eye diseases. He has been quoted, pictured and/or his work has been reported in the *Wall street Journal*, *USA Today*, *People Magazine*, the *Chicago Tribune*, the *Chicago Sun Times*, *CBS national nightly news*, *NBC national nightly news* and *Good Morning America*. He serves as principal investigator on NIH-funded clinical trials of stem cell transplantation for autoimmune diseases and has served as a reviewer and or editorial board member of numerous medical journals. In March 2008, Dr. Burt testified before the U.S. Congress advocating the positive effects of stem cell transplantation for autoimmune diseases. Dr. Burt received his M.D. from the St. Louis University School of Medicine.



Ali Cinar

Ali Cinar, Ph.D., is a Professor of Chemical Engineering at Illinois Institute of Technology. He is currently the Associate Vice President for Research and Dean of the Graduate College. He received his Ph.D. in Chemical Engineering from Texas A & M University in 1976 and has held visiting positions at the University of Wisconsin and McMaster University (Hamilton, Canada). Dr. Cinar's research focuses on modeling, monitoring and control of chemical and biological processes. Specific research interests include knowledge-based systems for intelligent management of process operations and supervisory control; multivariable process monitoring, performance assessment, fault diagnosis and control; dynamic input-output model development for nonlinear and multivariable processes; quality and safety assessment and improvement in food processing; and modeling, simulation, and monitoring of biomedical systems. He has taught courses on process control, statistics and statistical quality control, along with short courses to industry on process monitoring and fault diagnosis at Illinois Institute of Technology, company sites and various technical conferences. Dr. Cinar is currently the Director of Illinois Institute of Technology's Engineering Center for Diabetes Research and Education.



Jennifer J. Kang Derwent

Jennifer Kang Derwent, M.S., Ph.D., is an Associate Professor in the Biomedical Engineering Department of Illinois Institute of Technology. She earned her M.S. in Applied Mathematics and Ph.D. in Biomedical Engineering from Northwestern University. She conducted post-doctoral research in Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences at the University of Illinois at Chicago. In general, her current projects include: biomaterial surface for retinal cells; ocular drug delivery; retinal cellular function; and in vivo retinal hemodynamics. She is a member of the Association for Research in Vision and Ophthalmology, the Biomedical Engineering Society, the International Society for Clinical Electrophysiology of Vision and Illinois Institute of Technology's Engineering Center for Diabetes Research and Education.



Eliezer Geisler

Eliezer Geisler, Ph.D., is a Professor at the Stuart School of Business, Illinois Institute of Technology and Director of the Illinois Institute of Technology Center for the Management of Medical Technology. He holds a doctorate from the Kellogg School of Management at Northwestern University. Dr. Geisler is the author of various papers in the areas of technology and innovation management, the evaluation of R&D, science and technology, and the management of healthcare and medical technology. He has authored more than eight books and acts as a consultant to major corporations; the United States Departments of Defense, Agriculture, Commerce and Energy; the Environmental Protection Agency; and NASA. Dr. Geisler's areas of research, teaching and consulting are the management and evaluation of research, development, knowledge and technological innovation. Currently, he is the elected chair of the Special Interest Group on healthcare technologies for the Association for Information Systems and serves on the boards of Sinai Medical Center and Schwab Rehabilitation Hospital in Chicago, Illinois. He serves on various editorial boards of major journals.



Nilmini Wickramasinghe

Nilmini Wickramasinghe, Ph.D., M.B.A., is the Associate Director of the Center for Management Medical Technology at Illinois Institute of Technology, a center for education, research and dissemination of current issues in the area of healthcare management. She is also Associate Professor at the Stuart Graduate School of Business, Illinois Institute of Technology.

She holds a Ph.D. from Case Western Reserve University, Cleveland, and M.B.A. and B.S. degrees from University of Melbourne. Dr. Nilmini Wickramasinghe researches and teaches in several areas within Information Systems including IT for competitive advantage, knowledge management, e-commerce, m-commerce and organizational impacts of technology. Specifically, Dr. Wickramasinghe has researched and published in the impacts of technologies on the healthcare industry and various aspects of medical informatics. She regularly presents her work throughout North America as well as in Europe and Australia. Currently, Dr. Wickramasinghe is the U.S. representative of the Health Care Technology Management Association.



Alberto Barceló

Alberto Barceló, M.D., M.Sc., graduated from the Medical School at the University of Havana in 1981 and received a degree in Epidemiology at University of Havana's School of Public Health in 1989. He worked at the National Institute of Endocrinology in Havana between 1989 and 1992 where he participated in clinical and epidemiological research related to type 1 diabetes. Dr. Barceló taught epidemiology at the Medical School at the University of Havana where he held a faculty appointment between 1988 and 1992. Dr. Barceló has held positions in Mozambique as Chief Medical Officer of the province of Maputo and in Canada where he worked at the Laboratory Center for Disease Control in Ottawa and at the New Brunswick Department of Health and Community Services. He joined the Pan American Health Organization in 1999 as a Regional Advisor at the Unit of Non-Communicable Diseases, Area of Disease Control and Prevention, at the Regional Office of the World Health Organization in Washington, D.C. His interests in non-communicable diseases have given him extensive expertise in surveillance and quality of care with a particular emphasis on developing countries. He is currently involved in projects in Central and South America, Mexico and the Caribbean. He has published on topics related to chronic diseases, the prevalence of diabetes, diabetes care and health economics. In 2007, Dr. Barceló was recognized by Nicaragua's Diabetes Foundation and the Association of Endocrinology, Metabolism and Nutrition for his contribution to the health of the Nicaraguan people. In March 2008, Dr. Barceló was honored with the Sir Alister McIntyre Distinguished Award from the University of the West Indies in Jamaica, for his outstanding international work on diabetes.



Eric A. Finkelstein

Eric Finkelstein, M.H.A., M.A., Ph.D., is a health economist with RTI International's Public Health Economics Program and a nationally acclaimed expert on the subject of economics and obesity. In addition to his book, *The Fattening of America*, Dr. Finkelstein has been published in the *USA Today*, *Forbes*, the *Washington Post*, the *New York Times* and the *Economist*. He holds a M.H.A., a Ph.D. and M.A. in Economics from University of Washington.

At RTI International, Dr. Finkelstein focuses on the economic causes and consequences of health behaviors, with a primary emphasis on behaviors related to obesity. He has published several peer-reviewed papers on this subject. Currently, Dr. Finkelstein is co-principal investigator and associate director for the RTI/UNC Center of Excellence in Health Promotion Economics. He has published over thirty peer-reviewed articles on the economics of obesity and related behaviors. For the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and other agencies, he leads several projects concerning the causes and consequences of obesity and evaluates several obesity prevention programs.



Benjamin Littenberg

Benjamin Littenberg, M.D., F.A.C.P., is the Henry and Carleen Tufo Professor of Medicine as well as Professor of Nursing and Director of General Internal Medicine at the University of Vermont. He received his medical degree from Case Western Reserve University and trained in internal medicine at Hartford (Connecticut) Hospital. He was a Robert Wood Johnson Clinical Scholar at Stanford University before becoming Assistant Professor of Medicine at Dartmouth. Following an appointment as Associate Professor of Medicine at Washington University in St. Louis, he assumed his present position in 1999. Dr. Littenberg's research interests center on technology assessment and quality improvement. Recent projects include new ways to measure quality of care in chronic disease, novel strategies for reporting test results to patients, the effect of the built environment on diabetes outcomes, safety improvements in outpatient prescriptions and strategies to address health literacy. In Vermont, Dr. Littenberg has developed statewide registry-based approaches to quality and safety improvement with the Vermont Breast Cancer Surveillance System and as Principal Investigator of the Vermont Diabetes Information System. He is currently the Director of Education and Career Development and Co-Director of Informatics of the University of Vermont Center for Clinical and Translational Science. He also serves as Chief Executive Officer of Vermont Clinical Decision Support, LLC.



Krista Donahue

Krista Donahue, M.P.P., is the Deputy Director in charge of policy for the Illinois Department of Healthcare and Family Services. Since coming to the Department, Krista has focused on quality issues. She developed the High Quality Healthcare Initiative, which includes bonus payments for performance, reduction in hospital infections through payment restructuring, and investment in health information exchange. Krista joined the Department last year after moving from Washington, D.C., where she was most recently Senator Richard Durbin's health care advisor. Prior to working for Senator Durbin, she advised Senator Debbie Stabenow of Michigan on healthcare and aging issues. Before going to Capitol Hill, Krista was an account supervisor at the public affairs firm Hill and Knowlton where she assisted clients with coalition building, grassroots and political media. Krista holds a B.A. from the University of Michigan and a Master's in Public Policy from the Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University.