

**John Dossetor  
Health Ethics  
Centre**



# **COMPASSION and CARE**

**Health Ethics Symposium  
Tuesday, 7 June 2011  
Stollery Executive Development Centre  
5<sup>th</sup> Floor, Alberta School of Business  
University of Alberta**



**UNIVERSITY OF  
ALBERTA**

# Goals of the Symposium

The John Dossetor Health Ethics Centre invites you to attend a one-day symposium on compassion and care. The presenters will discuss the following concepts:

What is compassion?

Is there a role for compassion in the practice of medicine?

Can you teach people to be compassionate?

What can compassion toward one's own self teach us about compassion toward others?

What is compassion fatigue?

How can the experience of compassion fatigue be identified in clinical practice?

# Target Audience

The symposium is open to everyone and may have special interest to:

Health Care Practitioners

Clinical Ethics Committee  
Members and Ethicists

Health Care Administrators  
and Managers

Scholars and Students

Spiritual Care Providers

Therapists, Social Workers

Caregivers

# Morning Agenda

Time		Topic	Speakers
A.M.	8:30 - 9:00	Registration and Coffee	
	9:00 - 9:15	<b>Welcome and Opening Remarks</b>	<b>Brendan Leier, PhD</b> John Dossetor Health Ethics Centre, U of A
	9:15 - 10:15	<b>What is Compassion?</b> What is compassion? Is it an emotion? A virtue? Can we teach it? Does it have a role in modern healthcare? This presentation will discuss the philosophical and cultural roots of compassion, as well as, examine what role compassion plays in the education and clinical practice of modern health professionals.	<b>Brendan Leier, PhD</b> John Dossetor Health Ethics Centre, U of A
	10:15 - 10:30	Break	
	10:30 - 11:30	<b>Varieties of Compassion in Healthcare</b> The term compassion is frequently used in healthcare literature and practice, but the specific contexts and meanings vary. Are we really talking about the same thing, or are we using the same word to express different and sometimes conflicting ideas? This presentation summarizes some of the major categories of meanings in common use and the implications of these meanings for healthcare practice.	<b>Dick Sobsey, EdD</b> John Dossetor Health Ethics Centre, U of A
	11:30 - 12:30	<b>Compassion? - give me the cure doc!</b> The evolution of a biological science based model of disease has replaced the traditional view of illness as burden. The provision of health services to cure is the dominant philosophy behind "the health care system" today. The values of a caring and compassionate professional have been replaced by evidence based diagnosis and treatment. In view of this, how can we argue in favour of the need for compassion?	<b>Paul Byrne, MB, ChB, FRCP</b> John Dossetor Health Ethics Centre, U of A

Continued on next page



# Afternoon Agenda

Time		Topic	Speakers
P.M.	12:30 - 1:30	Lunch	
	1:30 – 3:00	<p><b>Compassion Fatigue: The Experience of Canadian Healthcare Professionals</b></p> <p>A panel of interdisciplinary researchers will discuss compassion fatigue as experienced by healthcare professionals, based on their national, SSHRC-funded study.</p>	<p><b>Wendy Austin, RN, PhD</b> John Dossetor Health Ethics Centre, U of A</p> <p><b>Erika Goble, PhD(c)</b> Faculty of Education, U of A</p> <p><b>Leon Kagan, MD</b> Dept. of Psychiatry, U of A</p> <p><b>Linda Kreitzer, PhD</b> Dept. of Social Work, U of C</p> <p><b>Denise Larsen, PhD</b> Dept. of Educational Psychology, U of A</p>
	3:00 – 3:15	Break	
	3:15 - 4:15	<p><b>The Road Less Traveled: Compassion Toward Oneself</b></p> <p>What can compassionate regard toward one's own suffering, limitations or failures teach us about compassion toward others? Interdisciplinary sources from cognitive-behavioral psychology to Buddhism offer insights for accepting and responding to the human condition with less distress.</p>	<p><b>Laura Shanner, PhD</b> John Dossetor Health Ethics Centre, U of A</p>
	4:15 - 4:30	<b>Wrap Up and Closing Remarks</b>	<p><b>Brendan Leier, PhD</b> John Dossetor Health Ethics Centre, U of A</p>

# Registration Form

**Registration Deadline 2 June 2011**

*Compassion and Care*  
Health Ethics Symposium

Name				
Organization				
Address				
City		Province		Postal Code
Phone Number			E-mail	
Registration Fees (includes light breakfast and lunch)		Regular Registration		Student (full-time) Registration
		<input type="checkbox"/>	\$150.00 (GST incl.)	<input type="checkbox"/> \$70.00 (GST incl.)
Payment Method	Cheque payable to the John Dossetor Health Ethics Centre			
	Credit Card:	<input type="checkbox"/>	VISA	<input type="checkbox"/> Master Card
	Credit Card Number			Expiry Date
	Name on Card			Signature
	UofA Indent			
To Register or Inquiries	Mail: John Dossetor Health Ethics Centre 5-16 University Terrace, University of Alberta Edmonton, Alberta T6G 2T4		Fax: (780) 492-0673	
			Phone: (780) 492-6676	
			E-mail: dossetor.centre@ualberta.ca	
Cancellations received on or before 31 May 2011 will be refunded full registration fees less \$25.00. After 31 May, no refunds will be issued. Name substitutions are accepted any time.				