Title:
Clinical Ethics Fellow, Albany Medical Center, and Instructor in Bioethics, Alden March Bioethics Institute, Albany Medical College

Short Description:
The fellowship aims at expanding the clinical experience of those with prior training in bioethics interested in enhancing skills in delivering clinical ethics consultation services. Clinical ethics training focuses on building an advanced skills set toward meeting the core competencies for healthcare ethics consultants endorsed by the American Society for Bioethics and Humanities (ASBH).

Position Description:
The Alden March Bioethics Institute (AMBI) is also known as the Center For Biomedical Ethics, Education and Research at Albany Medical College. John A. Balint, M.D., founded the Center in 1993 to support medical ethics education, develop an ethics consultation service at Albany Medical Center, and promote high quality, useful research and scholarly work on important ethical issues. The Center’s programs include required coursework in medical ethics for Albany Medical College students, a master’s program in bioethics, and a Scholar’s Program in Bioethics for medical students. AMBI operates a full-time ethics consultation service at Albany Medical Center for physicians, nurses and other patient caregivers, patients and their families. Additional information about the Alden March Bioethics Institute can be found at www.aldenmarch.org or www.amc.edu/bioethics.

Albany Medical Center is northeastern New York's only academic health sciences center. It consists of Albany Medical College, Albany Medical Center Hospital, and the Albany Medical Center Foundation, Inc. Additional information about Albany Medical Center can be found at www.amc.edu.

Responsibilities:
• Respond to ethics consultation requests, coordinating coverage with other hospital clinical ethicists, members of the ethics committee, mission leaders, or pastoral care staff as appropriate
• Provide clinical ethics consultation services under supervision to patients, family members, staff, and physicians in a variety of clinical and organizational settings
• Apply knowledge and skills in assessment of ethical needs and interventions, including communication, mediation and problem solving.
• Help coordinate hospital ethics review committee functions and educational activities.
• Make rounds in various clinical areas such as adult medical and surgical, pediatric, and neonatal intensive care units, women's health units, and general medical and surgical areas.
• Attend meetings such as the hospital ethics committee, select quality assurance committees, and interdisciplinary clinical teams.
• With other faculty, coordinate and offer ethics education programs, grand rounds, and ethics lectures and seminars in the medical center and medical school as requested.
• Attend clinical ethics educational offerings throughout the system.
• Participate in data collection and quality improvement activities as well as regulatory preparedness related to clinical ethics consultation and educational services.
• Teach in the Health Care and Society series for first- and second-year medical students.
• Assist in the development of an outreach program and area-wide ethics review committee in cooperation with Albany Guardian Society and area hospitals and nursing homes.
• Engage in self-directed research and scholarly activities.

Supervision and Colleagues:

The Clinical Ethics Fellow works closely with other clinical ethicists who provide clinical ethics consultation services, faculty within the Institute, and center leaders to develop personalized learning goals and strategies for accomplishing them. Additional collegial support within the medical center comes from a wide range of experienced clinicians, including physicians, nurses, therapists, social workers, and administrators. The Alden March Bioethics Institute includes core teaching faculty from the medical school and medical center as well as colleagues from Albany Law School, the State University of New York at Albany, the New York State Department of Health, Northeast Health, the College of St. Rose, Albany College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences, and other local and national educational and health care institutions.

Educational Requirements:

The successful applicant must hold at least a master’s degree in bioethics (or its equivalent) and a professional or graduate degree in a discipline that interfaces with bioethics (such as law, medicine, nursing, social work, philosophy, theology, or moral theology). A candidate with formal course work or extensive practical experience in bioethics or health care is prerequisite.

Prior Experience:

Experience in applied ethics, preferably in a health care setting with experience in consultation, teaching or policy development is preferred — required if a candidate lacks a terminal degree.

Licensure/Certification/Registration:

None is required. Clinicians or other licensed or registered applicants should consider their need to maintain licenses or other certifications while engaged in the fellowship.

Complexity of the Work Environment:

The Clinical Ethics Fellow must be a critical thinker and have sufficient written and oral communication, relational, and teaching skills to contribute to the team and consultation enterprise. The Clinical Ethics Fellow must be able to follow hospital, departmental and related policies and procedures, and work independently and collaboratively in a fast-paced, emotionally charged atmosphere.
Salary and Benefits:

The full-time annual salary for this training position is $42,500 and carries full-time benefits with three weeks earned time off.

Application and Contract Information:

To be considered for this position, applicants are requested to send the following information electronically as a PDF or Microsoft Word DOCX file to the email address given in the contact information below:

- A letter of application including: (1) one’s preparation for this fellowship and training experience and how one might collaboratively contribute to the institution and the field; and (2) a statement of personal goals explaining why one might wish to undertake the fellowship. In the letter of application, the applicant should also clarify any current employment or study situation that might impact availability and discuss briefly any areas of health care ethics that might be of special interest;
- A current curriculum vitae or resume; and
- Two letters of recommendation giving special attention to the applicant’s character and collegial traits.

Applications are being accepted until this position is filled. The selection committee will begin deliberation of completed applications on January 1, 2014. The selection committee anticipates conducting FaceTime or Skype interviews as early as the middle of January. A few candidates may be invited to campus for on-site interviews and tours. The start date for the clinical ethics fellowship is July 1, 2014, or as soon thereafter as possible but no later than September 1, 2014.

For questions or additional information, please contact:

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