

CENTER PROMOTES TECHNOLOGY ETHICS DOMESTICALLY, REGIONALLY, AND GLOBALLY

Established in April 2007, the Center for Ethics, Law, and Society in Biomedicine and Technology (CELS) plays an active role in examining and reflecting on the impact of emerging technologies on ethics, law, and society, as well as in promoting interdisciplinary understanding of and cooperation in bioethics.

The CELS represents Taiwan as a member of the International Network of the UNESCO Chair in Bioethics and has attended the network's annual conference since 2007. CELS Director Daniel Fu-chang Tsai will attend the network's 2012 International Conference on Bioethics Education: Contents, Methods, Trends in September.

The CELS and the Department of Social Medicine invited two internationally-renowned scholars in bioethics and clinical ethics, Prof. George J. Agich from Bowling Green State University and Prof. James Dwyer from SUNY Upstate Medical University, to be visiting professors



at the College of Medicine in 2011 and 2012.

Since 2010, the CELS has collaborated with the NTU Center for Systems Biology and Bioinformatics. To raise awareness of research ethics, the CELS offered the course "Research Ethics and Integrity—The Ethics, Law, and Social Issues in Life Science Research" at the College of Life Science last March. Director Tsai also taught the summer course "Translational Research Ethics" in July.

The CELS organized a number of significant events in 2011 and 2012. It hosted the International Association of Bioethics Conference on Clinical Ethics and Research Ethics and co-hosted the 12th Asian Bioethics Conference, September 28-October 1, 2011. The CELS also held a Roundtable on Ethics Committees and Clinical Ethics and a Winter Course on Withholding/Withdrawing Life-Sustaining Treatments in December 2011.

At the Expert Meeting on the ELSI of Neuroscience on March 18, 2011, local scholars in philosophy, law, sociology, neuroscience, medicine,

and psychology addressed the following crucial topics "Bioethical Issues of Neuroscience," "Legal Issues of Neuroscience," "Citizen Deliberation on Brain Science and Society," and "Psychological Approaches to Neuroscience." The meeting reflected the CELS's mission to promote interdisciplinary dialogue and integration in bioethics and neuroscience.

The CELS held the 2012 International Conference on Biomedical Ethics and East Asian Confucian Tradition on March 28-29. Scholars from Korea, Germany, the United States, New Zealand, Hong Kong, and China met with local scholars to engage in spirited dialogues from the perspectives of philosophy, ethics, law, sociology, education, and medicine.

In 2013, the CELS will cooperate with the ELSI Group of the National Research Program for Biopharmaceuticals (NRPB) to promote ELSI research and development. The CELS and ELSI Group will join hands to investigate the current ethical, legal, and social issues arising from the NRPB's research.