

**National Reference Center for Bioethics Literature
National Information Resource on Ethics & Human Genetics**

THE BIOETHICS LIBRARY NEEDS YOUR SUPPORT

Introduction

We hope you have found the resources and services of the Kennedy Institute of Ethics library helpful over the years. In 2009 the library will mark its 36th anniversary. We have been fortunate to have received support from many organizations and individuals. The result is an unequalled research library staffed by information professionals who offer expertise in law, medicine, philosophy, religion, and languages, as well as the technical skills to deliver 21st century information. Although financial resources have been uneven at times, we have assembled a core collection of books, journals, reports, audiovisuals, and legal materials that span virtually the entire lifetime of the discipline of bioethics.

Our dream is to ensure the long-term future of this valuable resource and collection of services. There are many ways in which the audiences we serve can help us, and a few are summarized below.

Support Collection Development

- **Send Us Your Publications**

Please don't be modest. We greatly appreciate copies of your published work. You can rightly assume that we will include journal articles from the major bioethics journals, but because of the interdisciplinary nature of bioethics, it may be the case that we do not subscribe to a relevant publication, and this then slows the acquisition and database inclusion process.

- **Contribute Your Syllabi to the Exchange**

The Syllabus Exchange Project has more than 600 syllabi, accessible by faculty member, institution, instructional setting, and subject. Almost one-third are now full text, online. See: <http://bioethics.georgetown.edu/databases/Syllabus/> for more details.

- **Send Items from Your Personal Library Which Are on Our "Wanted" List**

A complete list of items we have been unable to acquire – both books and special issues of journals – is posted at: <http://bioethics.georgetown.edu/nrc/support.htm> . Please email [Lucinda F. Huttlinger](mailto:Lucinda.F.Huttlinger), Acquisitions Librarian, to provide her with information about what you plan to donate.

- **Make a Donation to the Library Book Fund for New Purchases**

Donations to the book fund should be directed to: Mara R. Snyder, M.S.L.S., Assistant Systems Librarian, indicating the subject area you wish to support. A bookplate recognizing your contribution will be added to the purchased books.

Support the International Bioethics Exchange Program (IBEP)

IBEP supports libraries in developing countries by donating more than 20 volumes of the annual *Bibliography of Bioethics* both to long-established and newly-created special libraries interested in furthering bioethics research (see: <http://bioethics.georgetown.edu/ibepltr.htm> for more information). We also provide supplemental materials, such as full sets of *Scope Notes*, compact discs of special collections and reports (such as the digital archive of the National Bioethics Advisory Commission), and other duplicate materials given to the Bioethics Library. To date, 51 libraries in 38 countries have become members.

IBEP relies entirely on donations for the shipping of the materials. In the past, several embassies have shipped the volumes; in other cases, individual donors have subsidized the transfer of materials. Unfortunately, effective May 2007, the U.S. Postal Service discontinued media bag shipping, causing a 200 to 300 percent increase in shipping costs. If you as an individual or your organization can sponsor a library in the developing world, please contact us. This worthwhile project ensures that basic bioethics literature is available in remote places with limited information access.

Be Library Ambassadors

We have tracked millions of accesses to the library web site, and hundreds of thousands of searches on the databases, but we want many, many more people to know about our resources and services. You can help us by directing your students and colleagues to our site. And please visit our site often. We offer new features regularly, such as the Educational Opportunities search engine unveiled in October 2007 at:

<http://bioethics.georgetown.edu/edures/edoppsearch.htm>

Consider Endowment and Planned Giving Opportunities

We do not underestimate the challenges ahead. Our federal grants and contracts are on a renewable basis only, and are driven by specific tasks that may or may not match the library's overall goals. In conjunction with pursuing those initiatives, we must increase significantly the library's endowment to ensure the long-term viability of this unparalleled resource. Our audience is international. Although Georgetown University and the Kennedy Institute of Ethics are nurturing homes, the fact is that it takes more than a village for an internationally-recognized and utilized library to thrive.

Naming opportunities include special collections (such as the Kampelman Collection of Jewish Ethics) or an endowed chair for a librarian. Please direct inquiries to [Linda A. Powell](#), Kennedy Institute Administrator.

The Kennedy Institute of Ethics and its Bioethics Library look forward to continued service to the bioethics community and welcome your ideas and comments on ways to enhance our resources for the benefit of all.

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