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<th>Time</th>
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<tr>
<td>11:45am-1:15pm</td>
<td>SJE Bioethics Group Steering Committee Meeting</td>
<td>Farragut Square</td>
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<td>1:30-6:30pm</td>
<td>Bioethics Group of SJE: Selected Papers</td>
<td>Independence DE</td>
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<td><strong>Program Chair:</strong> Jonathan Cohen, Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion, Cincinnati</td>
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<td>1:30-2:30pm</td>
<td><strong>Session 1:</strong> Dignity and End-of-Life in Jewish Bioethics</td>
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<td></td>
<td><strong>Presenter:</strong> Leonard A. Sharzer, The Jewish Theological Seminary</td>
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<td><strong>Topic:</strong> “Is the Goseis Dead?”</td>
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<td><strong>Abstract:</strong></td>
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<td>In rabbinic literature the term <em>goseis</em> is used to refer to an individual whose death is imminent. In modern times, it has become a halakhic paradigm in end-of-life decision making. I believe that in our era, the term should be applied only to those “actively dying,” a distinct and recognizable phase of the dying process. This paper will review the development of the concept of the <em>goseis</em> in rabbinic literature, analyze how this halakhic paradigm has been applied in modern responsa, and discuss whether it is an appropriate model for bioethical deliberations at the end of life.</td>
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<td><strong>Convener:</strong> Elliot Dorff, American Jewish University, Los Angeles</td>
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<td>2:45-3:45pm</td>
<td><strong>Session 2:</strong> The Self and Other in Jewish Bioethics</td>
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<td><strong>Presenter:</strong> Y.M. Barilan, Tel Aviv University</td>
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<td><strong>Topic:</strong> “Self discipline within intimate relationship with the Other: the law and the virtue in Jewish ethics”</td>
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<td><strong>Abstract:</strong></td>
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<td>Christianity has taught that the Jews had lived under the yoke of the Law; whereas Jesus liberated humankind from the Law and taught by example the ways of the Christian virtues. I challenge the binary division between “law” v. &quot;virtue&quot; oriented religious ethics. Surveying mainstream rabbinc rulings on critical moral questions such as euthanasia and abortion, arguing that Jewish law itself directs the person to follow their virtue and conscience. Interestingly, Catholic teachings on the very same moral issues are stringent and formulated in legal language.</td>
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<td><strong>Convener:</strong> David Teutsch, Reconstructionist Rabbinical College, Philadelphia</td>
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Session 3: The Narrative Dimension

Presenter: William Cutter, The Kalsman Institute on Judaism & Health
Topic: “What Do Classic Texts Really Contribute to Contemporary Discourse?”

Abstract:

Richard Lanham once proposed that most people tend to look "through" narratives towards some external value or some behavioral norm, while paying less attention to what happens when you look at a narrative. Process over product, in other words, was urged by the UCLA professor, along with many others who have become interested in narrative ethics and law and ethics. But narrative study, in spite of young scholars like Wimpfheimer, Kraemer, Aryeh Cohen and Zoloth, and the elders like Nussbaum, Booth, etc., remains an elusive and sometimes paradoxical way of looking at "doing ethics". My paper will challenge traditional Jewish ethicists, to be sure, to examine the ways in which they have used narrative; but it will also urge professional scholars of narrative to acknowledge the limits of the search for clarity in the use of narrative to arrive at ethical decisions. Above all, I will provide an inventory of "what happens" when one reads a narrative, to help us enrich our search for what is the "right" in bioethical situations.

Convener: Jonathan Cohen, Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion, Cincinnati

Session 4: Pain, Suffering, and Religious Meaning

Presenter: Aryeh Ballaban, Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion, New York
Topic: “Quality of Life, Pain Relief, and Presence of Mind: a Study of Nachum Ish Gamzu, Tractate Ta’anit 21a”

Abstract:

Judaism values the management and diminution of pain and considers it an integral part of the sacred obligation to heal. Yet, competing against this is the value of presence of mind, a component of one’s sense of humanity, mortality, and place in God’s world.

The hypothesis that informs this paper is that pain management and quality of life considerations reflect a struggle to balance and prioritize these competing Jewish values. My paper seeks to shed light on this balancing act. It does so by examining the narrative of and rabbinic commentary on the Talmudic character Nachum Ish Gamzu.

Presenter: Corey Helfand, Peninsula Sinai Congregation, Foster City, CA
Topic: “The Permissibility of Medicinal Marijuana in Jewish Law”

Abstract:
The use of marijuana, medicinal and recreational, raises numerous questions in Jewish tradition as well as for medical researchers. Jewish law does not overtly discuss the use of marijuana for the purpose of alleviating pain and suffering. This paper focuses on the Jewish legal attitude toward the permissibility of using marijuana medicinally including: (1) The origins of marijuana, its side effects, and the way that marijuana is viewed in the 21st century medical world. (2) The halakhic (Jewish legal) sources pertaining to using marijuana medicinally, precedent for herbal medicine, the requirement to care for oneself, and the halakhic sources pertaining to smoking in Jewish law. (3) A comparison between the use of drugs and alcohol: immediate and long term side effects. (4) Examination of pain management and quality of life.

**Convener:** Leonard Sharzer, The Jewish Theological Seminary, New York

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<th>Time</th>
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<tr>
<td>7:00-9:00pm</td>
<td>SJE Board Meeting</td>
<td>Washington Boardroom</td>
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**Friday**

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<th>Time</th>
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<td>7:15-8:45am</td>
<td>Breakfast with an Author</td>
<td>Constitution CDE</td>
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<td>Buffet opens at 7:15; Discussion 7:45-8:45</td>
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Facilitator: Maria Kenney, Durham University

Facilitator: Daniel A. Morris, University of Iowa

Facilitator: Charles Mathewes, University of Virginia

Facilitator: Richard Sparks, St. Anthony Hospital, Old St. Mary's Church, Chicago

Facilitator: Ramón Luzárraga, University of Dayton

Facilitator: Sharon Higginbothan, Duquesne University

Facilitator: James Calvin Davis, Middlebury College
    Facilitator: Romanus Cessario, OP, Saint John's Seminary

    Facilitator: Mary Vianne Bilgrien, Loyola University, New Orleans

    Facilitator: Tyson-Lord Gray, Vanderbilt University

    Facilitator: Andrea Vicini SJ, Boston College

    Facilitator: Geoffrey Claussen, Elon University

    Facilitator: David W. Gill, Gordon Conwell Theological Seminary

    Facilitator: Michael Barilan, Tel Aviv University

    Facilitator: Donna Yarri, Alvernia University

Scharen, Christian, Aana Marie Vigen (Ed.), *Ethnography as Christian Theology and Ethics* (Continuum, 2011)
    Facilitator: Angela D. Sims, St. Paul School of Theology

    Facilitator: John Raines, Temple University

    Facilitator: Felicia George, University of Denver, Iliff School of Theology

7:45-8:45am    Interfaith Breakfast    Latrobe

9:00-10:30am    Plenary    Constitution AB

Speaker: Andrew Bacevich, Department of International Relations, Boston University

Topic: “The Sources of American Conduct”
Abstract:

In his 1947 essay "The Sources of Soviet Conduct," the American diplomat George F. Kennan sought to describe the "political personality" of Soviet Power -- in essence explaining why the Soviet Union behaved as it did in the world. My presentation will attempt something similar for the United States today. Kennan found his explanation in "ideology and circumstances." My presentation will include those factors while adding several others, among them identity, culture, political economy, and inertia.

Respondent: Robin Lovin, Southern Methodist University
Convener: Lisa Cahill, Boston College

10:30-11:00am Break Independence A

11:00am-12:30pm Concurrent Session I Independence DE
Speaker: Ezekiel Emanuel, University of Pennsylvania
Topic: “Judaism and Bioethics—What is the Link?”

Respondents: Tom Beauchamp, Georgetown University
Elliot Dorff, American Jewish University
Convener: Aaron Mackler, Duquesne University

12:30-2:00pm Lunch

2:00-3:30pm Concurrent Session II Independence DE
Topic: “Recent Trends in Thinking about War: Jewish, Christian, and Muslim Perspectives”

Panelists:
Lisa Cahill, Boston College (SCE)
Reuven Firestone, Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion, Los Angeles (SJE)
Sohail Hashmi, Mount Holyoke College (SSME)

Abstract:

The focus of this panel will be recent developments in Jewish, Christian, and Muslim thinking about war. Each panelist will identify salient issues related to this focus. The presentations will be followed by discussion among the panelists and with the audience.

Convener: John Kelsay, Florida State University

3:30-4:00pm Break Independence A

4:00-5:30pm Concurrent Session III Independence HI
Presenter: Julia Watts Belser, Missouri State University
Title: “Suffering Rabbis and Other Animals: Theorizing the Connections between Animal Ethics, Worker Justice, Gender and Suffering in Bavli Baba Metsia 83b-85a”
Abstract:

This paper articulates Jewish feminist animal ethics in conversation with an extended passage from the Babylonian Talmud, Baba Metsia 83b-85a. I show how the text parallels the suffering of animals, laborers, women, and rabbis, while also addressing worker exploitation, violence, and vulnerability. The text concludes with the famous story of Rabbi Yehudah and the calf, a story often extracted from its context to support Jewish animal protection. Yet, I suggest that the larger passage helps us theorize important interconnections—and I argue for a more integrated ethical approach to issues of animal suffering, gender violence, disability ethics, and worker exploitation.

Respondent: Celia Deane-Drummond, University of Notre Dame
Convener: Aaron Gross, University of San Diego

4:43pm Shabbat candle-lighting On your own

5:45-6:45pm SCE Presidential Address Constitution AB
SCE President: Stanley Hauerwas, Duke Divinity School
Topic: “Bearing Reality”

7:00-7:45pm Kabbalat Shabbat Services McPherson
Followed by Kiddush and Hamotzi

(Please bring your own siddur.)
All are welcome

8:00-9:30pm Shabbat Dinner Independence HI
(Pre-registration required for dinner.)

Saturday

7:15-8:45am Breakfast with an Author Constitution CDE
Buffet opens at 7:15; Discussion 7:45-8:45 (Pre-registration is required.)

Facilitator: Stephen Lammers, Lafayette College

Biggar, Nigel, Behaving in Public: How to do Christian Ethics (Wm B Eerdmans Press, 2011)
Facilitator: Roberto D. Sirvent, Hope International University

Bucar, Elizabeth M., Creative Conformity: The Feminist Politics of U.S. Catholic and Iranian Shi'i Women (Georgetown University Press, 2011)
Facilitator: David Clairmont, University of Notre Dame

Evans, Abigail Rian, Is God Still at the Bedside? Medical, Ethical, and Pastoral Issues in Death and Dying (Wm B Eerdmans Press, 2011)
Facilitator: Enda McDonagh, Pontifical University, Maynooth (Emeritus)
   Facilitator: Jonathan Crane, Emory University

   Facilitator: Brent Waters, Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary

Haddorff, David, *Christian Ethics as Witness: Barth’s Ethics for a World at Risk* (Cascade Books, 2011)
   Facilitator: G. Clarke Chapman, Moravian College

   Facilitator: K. Christine Pae, Denison University

   Facilitator: Jermaine M. McDonald, Emory University

   Facilitator: Paul T. Nelson, Wittenberg University

   Facilitator: Emily Filler, University of Virginia

   Facilitator: Joshua Mauldin, Southern Methodist University

   Facilitator: James Gubbins, Salem State College

   Facilitator: Louis Newman, Carleton College

   Facilitator: Mark Ryan, Georgian Court University

   Facilitator: Patrick Flanagan, St. John's University, NY

9:00-10:30am        Plenary                Constitution AB
Speaker:        Stephen Carter, Yale Law School
Topic: “The Violence of Peace”

Respondents: Daniel Bell, Lutheran Theological Southern Seminary
William Werpehowski, Villanova University
Convener: M. Cathleen Kaveny, University of Notre Dame

10:30-11:00am Break Independence A

10:45am-12:30pm Shabbat Service Farragut Square
Including discussion of Parashat Vayechi (Genesis 47:28 - 50:26)
(Please bring your own siddur.)
Service is in Hebrew, All are welcome

12:30-2:00pm Shabbat Lunch (Pre-registration required.) Franklin & McPherson

2:00-3:30pm Concurrent Session IV: War Ethics Wilson/Roosevelt

Presenters:
1. Daniel H. Weiss, University of Cambridge
   Title: “Individual Violence, Collective Violence, and Direct Divine Sanction in Classical Rabbinic Literature”
2. Noam Zohar, Bar Ilan University
   Title: “Double Effect, Double Intention and Commanders' Responsibility: A Jewish Perspective”

Abstract:

This session explores various ways in which Jewish tradition differentiates between legitimate and illegitimate types of killing. Daniel Weiss’s paper focuses on classical rabbinic literature, arguing that the value of individual human life, alongside the Temple’s destruction and prophecy’s cessation, leads these texts to a sharp distinction between individual and collective forms of taking life, preserving the former while suspending the latter. Noam Zohar’s paper applies Jewish textual sources to questions of contemporary warfare, arguing for the responsibility of armed forces to establish norms that protect individual noncombatant lives, even when such precautions might put combatants at greater risk. Together, both papers point to distinctive and perhaps surprising relations between individual and collective in Jewish ethics.

Convener: Louis Newman, Carleton College

3:30-4:00pm Break Independence A

4:00-5:30pm Concurrent Session V Constitution E
Presenter: Ronit Irshai, Bar Ilan University
Title: “Rape in Jewish Law”

Abstract:
This paper, part of a larger study exploring the treatment of rape in Jewish law (halakhah), will focus on rabbinic readings of the biblical sources. How did the Talmud understand the crime of rape? Did the rabbis see rape only as a property offense? What distinguishes rape from seduction? What is the meaning of the Talmudic statement: “an act performed under compulsion may have terminated with her consent”? Can a husband rape his wife? The paper will also consider modern halakhic approaches and a feminist critique that follows the path of Catharine MacKinnon, who identifies sexual vulnerability as a main instrument of patriarchal dominance.

**Respondent:** Kathryn Blanchard, Alma College  
**Convener:** Judith Kay, University of Puget Sound

**5:44pm**  
**Havdallah**  
**On your own**

**8:00-9:30pm**  
**SJE Saturday Evening Session**  
**Independence G**  
**Presenter:** Ryan Dulkin, Washington University in St. Louis  
**Title:** “The Exegetical Story as the Arena for Classical Jewish Ethics: The Case of Humanity’s Creation in Genesis Rabbah 8”

**Abstract:**

Classical rabbinic Judaism focuses on humanity’s creation in Genesis 1:26 as a key text upon which to play out a host of ethical dilemmas, including questions concerning human nature, the balance between strict justice and grace, between truth and love, and concerns for limits upon divine sovereignty. This paper analyzes a key cycle of exegetical stories in *Genesis Rabbah* 8, arguing that these texts favor notions of compassion and grace over truth and strict justice. This paper suggests that rabbinic sources favor the narrative over discursive forms of discourse when confronting fundamental problems of human nature and conduct.

**Respondent:** Julia Fleming, Creighton University  
**Convener:** Laurie Zoloth, Northwestern University

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**Sunday**

**7:15-8:45am**  
**Breakfast with an Author**  
*Constitution CDE*  
Buffet opens at 7:15; Discussion 7:45-8:45 (Pre-registration is required.)

Austin, Victor Lee, *Up with Authority: Why We Need Authority to Flourish as Human Beings* (T and T Clark/Continuum, 2010)  
**Facilitator:** Gerald S. Vigna, Alvernia University

**Facilitator:** Paul Martens, Baylor University
Facilitator: Joshua Daniel, University of Chicago

Finn, Daniel (Ed.), *The True Wealth of Nations: Catholic Social Thought and Economic Life* (Oxford University Press, 2010)
Facilitator: William George, Dominican University

Facilitator: Thomas Schubeck, John Carroll University

Facilitator: Jan Jans, Tilburg University

Facilitator: Kathryn Blanchard, Alma College

Facilitator: David Elliot, University of Notre Dame

Facilitator: Jacob Goodson, College of William & Mary

Facilitator: Mindy Makant, Duke University Divinity School

Wall, John, *Ethics in Light of Childhood* (Georgetown University Press, 2010)
Facilitator: Mary Doyle Roche, College of the Holy Cross

7:45-8:45am  **SJE Business Meeting**  
*Renwick*
*Open to all SJE Members*

9:00-10:30am  **SJE Plenary**  
*Constitution AB*
*In conjunction with SCE*

**Speaker:** Michael Walzer, Institute for Advanced Study, Princeton, NJ
**Topic:** “Conceptions of Peace in the Hebrew Bible”

**Respondents:** Daniel Statman, Haifa University  
Glen Stassen, Fuller Theological Seminary

**Convener:** Jonathan Crane, Emory University
Abstract:

My paper will explore the possibility of constructing a virtue ethics of war and peace in the Jewish tradition. While respecting important legal distinctions and principles, another means of discerning the limits of war and peace is to analyze the character trait of “courage” in the works of Maimonides and Spinoza and how it functions within their hermeneutical teaching on ethics. By attempting to grasp the Jewish view of war and peace through the virtue of courage one is able to comprehend it within the larger theoretical framework of the relationship of knowledge, the emotions and the goals of human life.

Respondent: Geoffrey Claussen, Elon University
Convener: Alan Mittleman, Jewish Theological Seminary