



33rd ANNUAL SERIES

DIALOGUES IN RESEARCH ETHICS

Monthly Conference Series | Dialogue No. 217

Wednesday, March 19, 2025, 12:00 – 1:00 p.m.

HYBRID

In Person: Don Soffer Clinical Research Center, Room 1479A; a light lunch will be provided

Online: [Click here to register](#)

The Use of Unclaimed Bodies in Medical Education

Eli Shupe, PhD
University of Texas at Arlington

Despite growing sensitivity to the ethics of whole-body donation in the field of clinical anatomy, the remains of unclaimed individuals continue to be used in health care teaching and research throughout the United States. This practice disregards autonomy and consent, can harm various individuals and groups and imperils public trust in medical institutions. Whole-body donation requires either the prior consent of the deceased or the explicit permission of their next of kin. There are several practical alternatives for institutions transitioning from the use of unclaimed bodies.

Dr. Shupe is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Philosophy and Humanities at the University of Texas at Arlington, where she co-directs the Medical Humanities and Bioethics program.

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For more information, phone UMMSM Institute for Bioethics and Health Policy at 305-243-5723
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