

Media Release

Chiefs of Staff, News Directors

Friday 11 July 2014

Law conference to examine the ethics and legalities of personalised medicine

Imagine medications tailored to your specific genetic needs, including better diagnosis and treatment of what illness you have - or might have in the future.

The field of personalised medicine, as it is known, is less like science fiction and closer to reality.

A conference this week (**Friday 11 and Saturday 12**) at the University of Tasmania featuring a group of Australian and international experts will examine questions around the ethics and legalities of personalised medicine.

Leading or Limping? Regulation in the Age of Personalised Medicine is being held by the University's Centre for Law and Genetics and Faculty of Law.

Key speakers at the conference:

Dr Sandra Lee

- Dr Lee is a Senior Research Scholar at the Stanford Center for Biomedical Ethics at Stanford University.
- Her research and teaching focuses on the **sociocultural and ethical dimensions of emerging genomic technologies and their translation into clinical practice.**
- Dr Lee's most recent research is on Social Networking and Personal Genomics and investigates how consumers who have purchased personal genetic testing services interpret and share their test results and data.

Associate Professor Tania Bubela

- Prof Bubela has been a professor in the University of Alberta School of Public Health since 2008 and holds an appointment as adjunct professor in the School of Business.

- Her research interests include **intellectual property law and policy, health law, biotechnology, genomics, technology transfer, commercialisation of biomedical research and science communication.**
- She is co-lead of PACEOMICS (paceomics.ca) and the Alberta Ocular Gene Therapy Team and a Principal Investigator with the Stem Cell Network.

Professor Timothy Caulfield

- Professor Caulfield is a Canada Research Chair in Health Law and Policy and a Professor in the Faculty of Law and the School of Public Health at the University of Alberta.
- He is a Fellow of the Trudeau Foundation and a Fellow of the Royal Society of Canada and the Canadian Academy of Health Sciences, and is the Principal Investigator for a number of large interdisciplinary projects that explore the **ethical, legal and health policy issues associated with a range of biomedical and public health topics.**

Dr Jane Kaye

- Dr Kaye is the Director of the HeLex Centre at the University of Oxford.
- The Centre specialises in investigating the relationships between law, ethics, and practice in the area of emerging technologies in health, and honing those relationships to facilitate effective translational outcomes.
- Dr Kaye's research focuses on **the role of law in the global regulation of innovative technologies in medicine, with a particular focus on biobanks and standardisation.**

For more information about the University's Centre for Law and Genetics, please visit: <http://www.lawgenecentre.org/clg.php>

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