Bioethics Resources on the Web

Once described as an “enormous used book store with volumes stacked on shelves and tables and overflowing onto the floor” (Pool, Robert. 1994. Turning an Info-Glut into a Library. Science 266 (7 October): 20-22, p. 20), Internet resources now receive numerous levels of organization, from basic directory listings to elaborate “links” (cross-references to other Internet documents) that flash and glow in the dark. In many ways, the Internet functions as a direct extension of the traditional library. Following linked references across various sites is an electronic version of browsing library stacks, and the serendipitous discoveries made while “surfing the Net” recall the wonders of physically going “book-to-book.” Although many of the Internet’s best aspects augment library strengths by eliminating physical distance from sources, Net resources pose unique problems for researchers. It is not always clear who is responsible for the content of Web documents, when the document was produced, or how often (if ever) it is updated. Internet resource tools, then, must enable researchers to identify appropriate resources and to evaluate what they find when they get there.

WEB RESEARCH AS TAKING “SNAPSHOTS”

Given the Internet’s visual nature and fluid content, the process of conducting research on the Web has been likened to taking an informal picture of information on a specific date at a particular time. This metaphor also conveys the “zoom-in” aspect of searching through Web pages by going from general to specific categories. In the first section of this Scope Note, National Reference Center for Bioethics Literature (NRCBL) staff present a snapshot of bioethics resources taken during the spring months of 2000. Entries are divided into the categories of directories, electronic journals, full-text documents, news/current awareness, and teaching resources. In the two subsequent sections, this series of categories is repeated for entries on a specific topic within bioethics—genetics—and again for general search and evaluation tools. Where a Web site may contain pages appli-
cable to more than one category, multiple entries are made for that site with appropriate information for each category.

Much as telecommunication advances have strengthened the relationship of patients and providers as partners, the dynamic nature of the Internet acknowledges that the researcher functions as a librarian whenever accessing the Web. It is our hope that BIOETHICSLINE and the other NRCBL databases not only will enable researchers to search the Web more efficiently, but also will help them to evaluate what they find when they get there.

BIOETHICSLINE ON THE WEB: AN INTERNATIONAL PLAN IN PROGRESS

Once only available through libraries, the U.S. National Library of Medicine (NLM), the funding agency for the ongoing development of the BIOETHICSLINE® database from the Kennedy Institute, has provided free Web access to that database of 63,000 citations since September 1998 through Internet Grateful Med. Plans are now underway to eliminate such specialty databases and incorporate all citations into PubMed (for journal articles) or LOCATORplus (for book-like materials and chapters in books). Both of these databases are likewise available at no cost on the Web. In the transition to PubMed and LOCATORplus some features of BIOETHICSLINE that presently are available may be lost. Researchers are encouraged to contact the National Reference Center for Bioethics Literature with search requests or for search strategy assistance with either the current or the future system (medethx@georgetown.edu).

The inclusion of bioethics citations in PubMed and LOCATORplus will have several advantages. First, unique keywords from the Bioethics Thesaurus will be considered for inclusion in Medical Subject Headings (MeSH), the indexing vocabulary for PubMed and LOCATORplus, thereby enhancing retrieval of relevant clinical literature by offering more precise terminology covering ethical issues. Second, it will be easier to identify foreign-language materials, which are not currently included in the scope of BIOETHICSLINE. Third, the updating schedule will become more frequent. On the other hand, there may be some loss of searching precision because certain specialized features may not be supported. Again, contacting NRCBL for assistance is recommended if difficulties are encountered.

The Web brings all of us closer together, giving us opportunities to examine approaches to bioethical problems in other countries. Although non-English language materials will be represented in PubMed and LOCATORplus, they will be drawn largely from the clinical literature. Researchers must continue to search elsewhere for documents from other disciplines, such as philosophy, law, and the social sciences. The Web pages of organizations can be consulted for pertinent documents. On a broader level, some government and academic groups are supporting the collection and dissemination of bioethics resources worldwide. (Note: many have adopted the Bioethics Thesaurus as the basis for developing keyword vocabularies in other languages. The thesaurus has been translated into Dutch, French, German, Spanish, and Swedish, and a Turkish translation is underway.)
Often the vocabulary is enhanced to reflect varying local social, cultural, legal, and philosophical perspectives.)

Cooperative programs, such as that between the Kennedy Institute and the Deutsches Referenzzentrum für Ethik in den Biowissenschaften (DRZE) in Bonn (<http://www.drze.de>) to develop tree structures for the Bioethics Thesaurus and to share bibliographic data, will further enhance the retrieval of bioethics literature internationally. DRZE and other similar centers in Germany and Europe are working to make databases and online library catalogs available. The Akademie für Ethik in der Medizin, George-August-Universität in Göttingen, Germany, an organization with a long-standing interest in bioethics documentation, added 5,570 documents to the ETHMED database from 1994 through March 1999 (<http://www.aem-online.de/main.htm>). NRCBL will continue to provide links to these and to other bibliographic resources at: <http://bioethics.georgetown.edu>. Because the environment is changing daily, we recommend consulting this Web page as a starting point.

THE CATEGORIES: DIRECTORIES, ELECTRONIC JOURNALS, FULL-TEXT DOCUMENTS, NEWS/CURRENT AWARENESS, AND TEACHING RESOURCES

Reference requests received at NRCBL have informed our choice of the categories used to organize this Scope Note. Online directories meet the needs of those who ask "Where do I start?" Directories are lists of resources accompanied by their links and, sometimes, by brief summaries. In many ways, the home pages of bioethics organizations, with their extensive collection of links, function as directories for both the novice and expert searcher.

Electronic journals are at once the boon and the bane of Internet existence. When we can access the latest issues of major journals on the Web while the print copies are still in the mail, we cannot imagine how we ever functioned without the Internet. When access to the electronic version of a journal is limited to an institutional subscription not taken by our university, we fear that the Web may actually restrict rather than expand access to resources. The Internet's initial reputation of being "free" to all is changing rapidly. To provide local access to electronic journals, many publishers provide institutions with site licenses for the electronic versions of their journals. One example is Johns Hopkins University Press's "Project Muse," which provides electronic access to journals, including the Kennedy Institute of Ethics Journal, through institutional site licenses (<http://muse.jhu.edu/journals/ken>).

To determine which electronic journals you can access, first check with your local reference librarian. Second, lists of electronic journals are maintained on the Web (see the electronic journals part of each of the following sections). For medical journals, the National Library of Medicine is beginning to link citations to the full-text articles in a small subset of journals (see below, Evaluation and Searching Tools, Electronic Journals, HardinMD Electronic Showcase). If a publisher does not participate in direct links from Medline, NLM's Loansome Doc document delivery service enables searchers to place online orders for copies of articles, using the citation display screen (<http://www.nlm.nih.gov/psd/cas/
ldlibraries.html>). A list of international libraries participating in the Loansome Doc service also can be found on NLM’s site (<http://www.nlm.nih.gov/ild/main.cfm>.

The posting of full-text documents on the Internet is growing as a result of improvements in Web design software and server storage capacity. National Digital Library projects are underway at various government agencies (<https://www.osti.gov/inforum2000/>) in the United States, and bioethics commissions, both in the U.S. and abroad, concentrate on making their reports available full-text.

Building on an original strength of the Internet, rapid communication among researchers and other groups is enhanced by online discussion groups and by electronic mailing lists commonly called “listservs” for list servers. Searchable listserv archives are a valuable and frequently overlooked research tool. For meeting and conference information, bioethics organizations often maintain listings of local events, and for international coverage many link to the International Calendar of Bioethics Events (see below, Bioethics on the Web, News/Current Awareness—Bioethics).

Teaching resources on the Web can either facilitate the preparation of course materials, or serve as course materials themselves. Syllabi for some courses go beyond the usual outline and bibliography to include links to full-text documents and online videos. As with libraries, the Internet can act both as an extension of the classroom and as a unique learning environment of its own. The effect of cyberspace on learning and on research is unclear, but with the development of evaluation criteria for Web sites, a critical stance toward information sources becomes the common ground for the further elaboration of all research and study.

We hope that this sampling of diverse Web resources prompts novice and expert searchers alike to engage in this exhilarating challenge.

**BIOETHICS ON THE WEB**

*Directories—Bioethics*

**Site:** ASBH Links
**Organization:** American Society for Bioethics and Humanities (ASBH)
**Location:** Glenview, IL
**Country:** United States
<http://www.asbh.org/links/>

ASBH has an extensive list of links divided into groups such as academic centers, organizations and networks, and government offices for science and technology.

**Site:** Bioethics Resources for Meeting JCAHO Requirements
**Organization:** Medical College of Wisconsin, Center for the Study of Bioethics
**Location:** Milwaukee, WI
**Country:** United States
<http://www.mcw.edu/bioethics/presentation.html>

To facilitate compliance with the Joint Commission for the Accreditation of Hospital Organizations (JCAHO) ethics standards, this site links to pertinent online articles and reports, JCAHO materials, and Center for the Study of Bioethics online course materials.

**Site:** Bioethics Resources on the Web
**Organization:** National Institutes of Health, Inter-Institute Bioethics Interest Group (BIG), and Office of Extramural Research (OER)
The brief annotations in this directory are divided into the five categories: Bioethics at NIH, General Resources, Organizations, Federal Bioethics Resources, and Specific Topics (Biomedical Research, Genetics, and Clinical Practice).

Site: Center for Bioethics Links
Organization: University of Minnesota, Center for Bioethics
Location: Minneapolis, MN
Country: United States
<http://www.med.umn.edu/bioethics/links/>

In addition to lists of Web sites for other bioethics organizations, this site also links to journals, publishers, newspapers, and Minnesota state government sources.

Site: National Reference Center for Bioethics Literature (NRCBL) Links
Organization: Georgetown University, Kennedy Institute of Ethics
Location: Washington, DC
Country: United States
<http://www.georgetown.edu/research/nrcbl/links.htm>

This site contains entries from NRCBL's database of organizations and provides links to other bioethics sites.

Site: MedWebPlus—Bioethics
Organization: y-DNA, inc.
Location: Atlanta, GA
Country: United States
E-mail: info@y-DNA.com
<http://www.medwebplus.com/subject/Specialties/Bioethics/>

MedWebPlus is an annotated directory of health-related sites provided at no cost to demonstrate the web-design products of y-DNA, inc. Links to sites are monitored automatically by a software program, and a rating (uptime grade) is assigned to each site to indicate number of times the automatic link checker could access a particular site. The annotations for each listing are in a standard format that includes: site name, web address, uptime grade, geographic location, and subject speciality. As one of their specialities, entries for bioethics are divided into approximately 80 subsets such as animal welfare, health policy, and managed care.

Site: Zentrum für Ethik in den Wissenschaften / Center for Ethics in the Sciences and the Humanities Links
Organization: University of Tübingen, Interfaculty Center for Ethics in the Sciences and Humanities
Location: Tübingen
Country: Germany
E-mail: zew@uni-tuebingen.de
<http://www.uni-tuebingen.de/sez/index_info.html>

This site contains an extensive set of links to bioethics organizations and agencies in Europe, Asia, and North America.

Electronic Journals—Bioethics

Site: MedWebPlus Bioethics Electronic Journals
Organization: y-DNA, inc.
Location: Atlanta, GA
Country: United States
E-mail: info@y-DNA.com
<http://www.medwebplus.com/subject/Periodicals/Bioethics/>

This comprehensive list of more than 30 newsletters and journals dedicated to bioethics contains links to full-text versions of organizational news-
letters as well as to home pages for journals such as Cambridge Quarterly of Health Care Ethics and Christian Bioethics where table of contents listings and abstracts can be viewed.

Site: University of Guelph Library Pathfinder—Bioethics E-Journals
Organization: University of Guelph
Location: Guelph, Ontario
Country: Canada
E-mail: contact@ccne-ethique.org
<http://www.ccne-ethique.org/home.htm>

This electronic reference tool dedicated to electronic journals in bioethics is part of a larger directory of electronic publications in science and technology.

**Full-Text Resources—Bioethics**

Site: Bioethics Resources
Organization: University of Toronto, Joint Centre for Bioethics
Location: Toronto, Ontario
Country: Canada
E-mail: rhonda.martin@utoronto.ca
<http://www.utoronto.ca/jcb/Resources/resources.html>

One feature of this site is a collection of full-text documents organized by topics such as child health, organizational ethics, research ethics, and global ethics.

Site: Council of Europe Home Page
Organization: Council of Europe, Directorate of Legal Affairs—Bioethics Section
Location: Strasbourg
Country: France
E-mail: carlos.desola@daj.coe.fr or terry.journiac@daj.coe.fr
<http://www.coe.fr/oviedo/edito-e.htm>

This site contains the full-text of The Convention on Human Rights and Biomedicine, as well as historical documents relating to its development. Also available are other Council of Europe texts on bioethics, such as the Report on Human Artificial Procreation.

Site: CCNE Home Page
Organization: National Consultative Ethics Committee for Health and Life Sciences
Location: Paris
Country: France
E-mail: contact@ccne-ethique.org
<http://www.ccne-ethique.org/home.htm>

Full text of the entire list of opinions of the French national bioethics commission, going back to number 001 in 1984, are available in both French and English. In addition, this website has one of the best collections of links to international bioethics government bodies.

Site: Eubios Ethics Center Home Page
Organization: Eubios Ethics Center
Location: Christchurch and Tsukuba Science City
Country: New Zealand and Japan
E-mail: Macer@sakura.cc.tsukuba.ac.jp
<http://www.biol.tsukuba.ac.jp/~macer/index.html>

This site has links to full-text documents from international agencies such as UNESCO and HUGO, conference and symposia proceedings, and the electronic version of the Eubios Ethics Institute Newsletter, which contains annotations to numerous journal articles.

Site: Library of Bioethics and Medical Humanities Texts and Documents
Organization: University of Buffalo, Center for Clinical Ethics and Humanities in Health Care
Location: Buffalo, NY
Country: United States
E-mail: wear@acsu.buffalo.edu
This electronic library features classic bioethics texts such as *The Belmont Report: Ethical Principles and Guidelines for the Protection of Human Subjects in Research*, encyclicals of the Roman Catholic Church on bioethical issues, and the *Advisory Committee on Human Radiation Experiments: Final Report*. The site also links to bioethics reports from state and federal agencies.

**Site:** National Bioethics Advisory Commission Home Page  
**Organization:** National Bioethics Advisory Commission (NBAC)  
**Location:** Rockville, MD  
**Country:** United States  
<http://bioethics.gov/>  
Established by a Presidential executive order in 1995, NBAC’s reports and meeting transcripts are available in full text on this site.

**Site:** Nuffield Council on Bioethics Home Page  
**Organization:** Nuffield Council on Bioethics  
**Location:** London  
**Country:** Great Britain  
E-mail: bioethics@nuffieldfoundation.org  
<http://www.nuffield.org/bioethics/>  
The full text of the Council’s reports and discussion papers are available.

**Site:** Online Ethics Center for Engineering and Science  
**Organization:** Case Western Reserve University  
**Location:** Cleveland, OH  
**Country:** United States  
<http://onlineethics.org/index.html>  
This site contains the full text of codes of ethics, case studies, and essays on research ethics.

**News/Current Awareness—Bioethics**

**Site:** Bioethics and Today’s News  
**Organization:** The Johns Hopkins University, Bioethics Institute  
**Location:** Baltimore, MD  
**Country:** United States  
E-mail: bioethic@jhsph.edu  
<http://www.med.jhu.edu/bioethics_institute/>  
The Bioethics Institute home page features a list of recent news stories in bioethics with links to electronic versions of these stories in the newspapers where they have been published. The citations and links for these articles are retained in the Archives section of the site.

**Site:** Bioethics Discussion Pages  
**Organization:** University of Southern California, Health Sciences Center (Personal Home Pages)  
**Location:** Los Angeles, CA  
**Country:** United States  
E-mail: DoktorMo@aol.com  
<http://www-hsc.usc.edu/~mbernste/>  
Moderated by Maurice Bernstein, M.D., this site features a general discussion group entitled “Pot-Pourri,” discussion pages for specific topics, and polls on various ethical issues prompted by topics raised by participants. Recently modified entries are highlighted with a balloon icon.

**Site:** Bioethics.Net  
**Organization:** University of Pennsylvania, Center for Bioethics  
**Location:** Philadelphia, PA  
**Country:** United States  
E-mail: mcgee@mail.med.upenn.edu  
<http://www.bioethics.net/>  
One feature of this site is its summaries of recent news reports on bioethical issues, which are linked through Yahoo!News, to full-text articles on the
electronic sites for newspapers, such as the *New York Times*; network news, such as ABCNEWS.com; and wire services, such as Reuters.

Site: BioethicsLaw-L
Organization: Association of American Law Schools, Section on Law, Medicine, Health Care
Location: Washington, DC
Country: United States
E-mail: listserv@lawlib.wuacc.edu
<http://www.aals.org/index.html>

This electronic mailing list focuses on the intersection of bioethics and the law. To subscribe, send an e-mail message to: listserv@lawlib.wuacc.edu with the message: subscribe bioethicslaw-L followed by your name.

Site: BIOMED-L
E-mail: listserv@LISTSERV.NODAK.EDU

Begun by Michelle Francl, this electronic mailing list is devoted to discussing general topics in bioethics. To subscribe, send an e-mail message to listserv@listserv.nodak.edu and in the body of the message put: subscribe BIOMED-L.

Site: HEALTH-FAITH-ETHICS
Organization: Park Ridge Center for the Study of Health, Faith and Ethics
Location: Chicago, IL
Country: United States
<http://www.prchfe.org/>

This electronic mailing list is open to anyone with a professional interest in the intersection of faith traditions and medical ethics, including the topics of education, research, public policy, and law as they relate to the religious aspects of health care. To subscribe, go to the Center’s home page at http://www.prchfe.org/ and click on the subscription button.

Site: International Calendar of Bioethics Events
Organization: University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey—Robert Wood Johnson Medical School, Division for Medical Humanities
Location: Piscataway, NJ
Country: United States
E-mail: rmcintyr@umdnj.edu
<http://www2.umdnj.edu/ethicweb/upcome.htm>

Maintained by Russell L. McIntyre, Th.D., this listing of upcoming meetings, conferences, and symposia is updated on a regular basis.

Site: MCW-Bioethics
Organization: Medical College of Wisconsin, Center for the Study of Bioethics
Location: Milwaukee, WI
Country: United States
E-mail: listproc@post.its.mcw.edu
<http://www.mcw.edu/bioethics>

This electronic mailing list facilitates the exchange of opinions and information among bioethicists. To subscribe, send an e-mail message to listproc@post.its.mcw.edu and in the body of the message enter the phrase: subscribe mcw-bioethics Firstname Lastname.

Site: Satellite News Conference List
Organization: Medical College of Wisconsin, Center for the Study of Bioethics
Location: Milwaukee, WI
Country: United States
E-mail: buchanan@mcw.edu
<http://www.mcw.edu/bioethics/presentation.html>

Moderated by Elizabeth Buchanan, this electronic mailing list facilitates discussion of the Joint Commission for the Accreditation of Hospital Organizations (JCAHO) ethics standards and related issues.
Teaching Resources—Bioethics

Site: Distance Learning Programs of Study
Organization: Medical College of Wisconsin, Center for the Study of Bioethics
Location: Milwaukee, WI
Country: United States
URL: <http://www.mcw.edu/bioethics/depage.html>

This site provides course descriptions and online lectures for the Center’s distance learning program.

Site: Ethics Committee Core Curriculum
Organization: University of Buffalo, Center for Clinical Ethics and Humanities in Health Care
Location: Buffalo, NY
Country: United States
E-mail: wear@acsu.buffalo.edu
URL: <http://wings.buffalo.edu/faculty/research/bioethics/>

This site contains the electronic version of Western New York Institutional Ethics Committee Network’s Orientation Manual for Ethics Committee Members.

Site: Ethics Updates
Organization: University of San Diego, Values Institute
Location: San Diego, CA
Country: United States
URL: <http://ethics.acusd.edu/>

Video and print resources for teaching ethics and bioethics are available. Resources are categorized by subject—e.g., Aristotle and virtue ethics, environmental ethics, and military ethics—and link to full-text versions of many classic texts in the field.

Site: Medical Humanities Syllabi, Hippocrates Project
Organization: New York University, Department of Medical Humanities
Location: New York, NY
Country: United States
URL: <http://endeavor.med.nyu.edu/litmed/syllabi.for.web/syllabi.menu.page.html>

The content of this collection of syllabi is searchable. The site also contains the Literature, Arts, and Medicine Database, with audio links to literature and medicine texts.

Site: Syllabus Exchange Catalog
Organization: National Reference Center for Bioethics Literature, Kennedy Institute of Ethics, Georgetown University
Location: Washington, DC
Country: United States
E-mail: darraghm@georgetown.edu
URL: <http://www.georgetown.edu/research/nrcbl/syllabus/sylbcat.htm>

This catalog of descriptions of bioethics syllabi dating back to 1986 contains some links to online syllabi currently on the Web. The catalog descriptions are categorized by level of instruction.

Site: Videography
Organization: University of Tennessee at Knoxville, Philosophy Department
Location: Knoxville, TN
Country: United States
URL: <http://web.utk.edu/~ggraber/videos.htm>

This online bibliography is an alphabetic listing by title of videos that may be useful in bioethics education. Each citation contains a brief description, and producer information must be obtained by the University of Tennessee online catalog using the call number provided. This list was updated in February 1998.
Directories—Genetics

Site: Bioethics Resources (Genetics and Ethics)
Organization: University of Toronto, Joint Centre for Bioethics (JCB)
Location: Toronto, Ontario
Country: Canada
E-mail: trudo.lemmens@utoronto.ca
<http://www.utoronto.ca/jcb/Resources/resources.html>

Edited by Trudo Lemmens, this module of JCB’s resource section contains links to local organizations, such as the Canadian Genetic Diseases Network; biotechnology companies; online articles; and reports from international organizations such as Organisation for Economic Co-Operation and Development (OECD).

Site: Council for Responsible Genetics Links (CRG)
Organization: Council for Responsible Genetics
Location: Cambridge, MA
Country: United States

In addition to their newsletter, CRG’s links page connects to political, medical, consumer, and scientific organizations concerned with genetic research.

Site: Genethics Literature
Organization: Centre for Applied Ethics, University of British Columbia
Country: Canada
E-mail: brynw@ethics.ubc.ca
<http://www.ethics.ubc.ca/brynw/genlit.html>

This site provides links to abstracts of recently published books on genetics topics; online resources categorized by topics, such as DNA Banking and Bioprospecting; and newsletters and journals on genetics.

Site: Genomic and Genetic Resources on the World Wide Web
Organization: National Institutes of Health, National Human Genome Research Institute
Location: Bethesda, MD
Country: United States
<http://www.nhgri.nih.gov/Data/>

This site is the directory for international genome mapping activities. Link categories include genome databases, genome centers, chromosome maps, electronic journals, and genetics education sites.

Site: GeneWatch UK Links
Organization: GeneWatch UK
Location: Buxton, Derbyshire
Country: Great Britain
E-mail: gene.watch@dial.pipex.com
<http://www.genewatch.org/links.htm>

Focusing on genetics and agriculture, this site has links to European and North American government agencies, local and international political action organizations, and alternative press publications concerning genetically-modified organisms.

Site: Human Genome Diversity Project (HGDP)
Organization: Morrison Institute for Population and Resource Studies
Location: Stanford, CA
Country: United States
<http://www.stanford.edu/group/morrinst/HGDP.html>

Links are provided to full-text documents on HGDP in both English and Spanish, as well as to information about the structure of the HGDP committee and related organizations.
Electronic Journals—Genetics

Site: Genetics and Biotechnology Journals
Organization: CardioScript International, science. komm
Location: Salt Lake City, UT
Country: United States
E-mail: mcgee@mail.med.upenn.edu
<http://www.sciencekomm.at/journals/genetics.html>
This site contains links to an extensive list of genetics journals, some of which are in the collections of professional publishers and therefore are fee-based; others are available at no charge.

Site: PubScience Journal Collections
Organization: Department of Energy, Office of Scientific and Technical Information
Location: Oak Ridge, TN
Country: United States
E-mail: ostiwebmaster@apollo.osti.gov
<http://pubsci.osti.gov/srchfrm.html>
This site enables researchers to search for scientific articles and connect to the appropriate publishers from the retrieved citations.

Full-Text Resources—Genetics

Site: DOE Information Bridge
Organization: Department of Energy, Office of Scientific and Technical Information
Location: Oak Ridge, TN
Country: United States
E-mail: press@osti.gov
<http://www.osti.gov/bridge/home.html>
This site includes bibliographic records for and fully searchable full-text of more than 54,000 DOE-sponsored reports published since January 1995.

News/Current Awareness—Genetics

Site: Ethics and Genetics–A Global Conversation
Organization: University of Pennsylvania, Center for Bioethics
Location: Philadelphia, PA
Country: United States
E-mail: mcgee@mail.med.upenn.edu
<http://www.bioethics.net>
This feature enables users to access a number of full-text articles on genetic topics, comment on them online, and, if others are simultaneously commenting on the same article, engage in a chat with them. These comments are archived and available for display.

Site: Forum Gentechnik
Organization: University of Tübingen, Interfaculty Center for Ethics in the Sciences and Humanities
Location: Tübingen
Country: Germany
E-mail: hdfrey@uni-tuebingen.de
<http://www.zum.de/schule/Foren/biotech/>
This forum is a discussion group for scientists to exchange information on genetics research.

Site: GE-NEWS - International News on Genetic Engineering in Agriculture
Organization: Mothers for Natural Law, The Natural Law Party
Location: Fairfield, IA
Country: United States
E-mail: ge-news-subscribe@egroups.com
<http://www.safe-food.org/-news/welcome.html>
This bi-weekly news service provides brief abstracts of recent articles on genetic engineering published in newspapers, wire services, and academic journals. The archives for this service are maintained online and can be displayed by date.

Site: GEN-ETHICS
E-mail: listserv@LISTSERV.ACOR.ORG
This electronic mailing list focuses on the implications of the genome mapping and genetic screening for clinical care. To subscribe, send an e-mail message to listserv@LISTSERV.ACOR.ORG and in the body of the message put: subscribe gen-ethics.

Site: Genetics (Discussion Group)
Organization: Group to Advance Genetics and Social Work
E-mail: stbrown@syr.edu

This electronic mailing list is a forum for social workers and other professionals to address clinical challenges in genetic counseling.

Site: GENTECH
E-mail: GENTECH-REQUEST@ping.de

This electronic mailing list focuses on the impact of genetic engineering and gene patenting on the environment; it is geared for the non-scientist. To subscribe, send an e-mail message to GENTECH-REQUEST@ping.de and on the subject line, put: subscribe. The archives of this discussion group are searchable at: http://www.gene.ch/wgindex.html

**Teaching Resources—Genetics**

Site: DNA Learning Center
Organization: Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory
Location: Cold Spring Harbor, NY
Country: United States
<http://vector.cshl.org/> This site contains a photo archive of the American eugenics movement, an animated primer on molecular biology, and simulated gene sequencing exercises.

Site: Heredity, Health and Humanity
Organization: Beloit College, Biology Department
Location: Beloit, WI
Country: United States
<http://www.beloit.edu/~biology/genetics/ethics.homepage.html>

This site features online resources developed for a BioQUEST summer conference co-sponsored by the Howard Hughes Medical Foundation and Beloit College.

Site: Human Genome Project Education Resources
Organization: Department of Energy, Human Genome Project
Location: Oak Ridge, TN
Country: United States

This site contains full-text documents, such as *Your Genes, Your Choices* and *To Know Ourselves*, as well as the *Genome Education Modules* produced as part of the Biological Sciences Curriculum Study (BSCS); video and audio files on genetic testing and gene therapy; and the archives of their *Human Genome News* newsletter.

Site: National Information Resource on Ethics and Human Genetics
Organization: National Reference Center for Bioethics Literature, Kennedy Institute of Ethics, Georgetown University
Location: Washington, DC
<http://bioethics.georgetown.edu/nirehg.html>

This site contains annotated bibliographies on gene therapy, genome mapping, eugenics, and genetic screening, as well as a searchable database of ethics and genetics.
EVALUATION AND SEARCHING TOOLS

Directories—General

Site: Internet Guides, Tutorials, and Training Information
Organization: Library of Congress
Location: Washington, DC
Country: United States
<http://lcweb.loc.gov/global/internet/training.html>
This site contains links to Web glossaries, training guides, and online courses both for groups and for individuals.

Electronic Journal Lists—General

Site: Periodici Biomedici/Biomedical Journals
Organization: Biblioteca Centrale dell'Area Biomedica, Università degli Studi di Cagliari, Cittadella Universitaria di Monserrato
Location: Monserrato
Country: Italy
<http://pacs.unica.it/period.htm>
This comprehensive list of international journals identifies whether the specified links access a periodical's table of contents pages, the full-text of sample articles, or the full-text of the entire publication. The site also contains links to electronic journal directories for other countries, such as France and Germany.

Site: HardinMD E-journal Showcase Organization: Hardin Library for the Health Sciences, University of Iowa
Location: Iowa City, IA
Country: United States
<http://www.lib.uiowa.edu/hardin/md/ej.html>
This directory of electronic journals serves two purposes: to link to the electronic version of popular peer-reviewed medical journals such as JAMA and BMJ, and to display the previous year's citations from each electronic journal that have appeared in the Medline database. Highlighted journals are those with full-text links from their Medline citations.

Full-text Resources—General

Site: The Charters of Freedom
Organization: National Archives and Records Administration
Location: Washington, DC
Country: United States
<http://www.nara.gov/exhall/charters/>
The National Archives and Records Administration has the full text of the Declaration of Independence, the United States Constitution, the Bill of Rights, and the Constitutional Amendments. Highlighting has been used to indicate passages that have been superseded or repealed, thus making the documents current.

Site: Thomas—Legislative Information on the Internet
Organization: Library of Congress
Location: Washington, DC
Country: United States
<http://thomas.loc.gov/>
This site permits the monitoring of current legislation and contains links to historical documents and the full-text legislative sites for the Executive and Judicial branches of the federal government as well as the legislatures of state and local governments.

Teaching Resources—General

Site: Criteria for Assessing the Quality of Health Information on the Internet—Policy Paper
.Organization: Health Summit Working Group, Health Information Technology Institute, Mitretek Systems
Location: McLean, VA
E-mail: hiti@mitretek.org
<http://hitiweb.mitretek.org/docs/policy.html>
Country: United States

The Health Summit Working Group, made up of librarians from public, academic, medical, and special libraries, as well as information professionals from government agencies, developed a set of criteria for evaluating medical information on the Internet during a series of meetings funded in part by the Agency for Health Care Policy and Research (U.S. Department of Health and Human Services). The criteria specified include credibility, sponsorship/authorship, content, audience, currency, disclosure, purpose, design, interactivity, and caveats.

Site: HON Code of Conduct (HONcode) for Medical and Health Web Sites
Organization: Health on the Net (HON) Foundation
Location: Geneva
Country: Switzerland
<http://www.hon.ch/HONcode/Conduct.html>

Originally published in July 1996, the HONcode has been amended and expanded to eight principles, which are published on the site in 11 languages. The code addresses: “authority of the information, data confidentiality and privacy, proper attribution of sources, transparency of financial authorship,” and the clear separation of advertising from editorial content.

Site: Information Quality WWW Virtual Library
Organization: Asia Pacific Research Online
Location: Research School of Asian and Pacific Studies (RSPAS), Australian National University, Canberra
Country: Australia
E-mail: tmciolek@coombs.anu.edu.au
<http://www.ciolek.com/WWWVL-InfoQuality.html>

This site is a directory of links to reports, articles, publishing guides, and evaluation standards for developing, maintaining, and assessing information on the Internet. Of special interest is the site’s annotated bibliography Evaluation of Information Sources.