News from the KIE and the Bioethics Research Library

Last summer, following many years of service, Madison Powers stepped down as Director of the Kennedy Institute of Ethics, and Maggie Little assumed the responsibilities of guiding the Institute into its fifth decade. Maggie is a long-time senior research scholar and director of the annual Intensive Bioethics Course at the Institute. Madison remains at the Institute as a senior research scholar.

One of numerous projects initiated in recent months is a complete redesign of the Institute’s website, which is slated for launch later this spring. The restructured site includes new and expanded information about the Institute’s people and programs, including more pages devoted to the Kennedy Institute of Ethics Journal, as well as a new Members Forum page. Although many features of the present members site will be suspended, current member subscribers will continue to have access to the Kennedy Institute of Ethics Journal online and discounts on bioethics books from select publishers.

The Bioethics Research Library at Georgetown University also is preparing a totally revamped website. You are encouraged to visit http://bioethics.georgetown.edu to explore special topics in bioethics; find case studies, audiovisual materials, and other educational resources; identify bioethics organizations worldwide; and discover digital resources on all topics in bioethics, including the comprehensive, archived websites of both President Clinton’s National Bioethics Advisory Commission and George W. Bush’s President’s Council on Bioethics.

The Library and Georgetown’s School of Foreign Service Library in Qatar are embarking on a collaborative venture to identify and acquire materials on Islamic medical and scientific ethics. A three-year, $1,050,000 grant from the Qatar National Research Fund will augment current holdings on Islamic bioethics, and new acquisitions will cover attitudes and practices on ethical issues within the Muslim world. The grant also will support translation and digitization of Arabic-language materials to allow for greater access to and exchange of information among ethicists, scientists, and citizens from the East and West.