



Erika Blacksher, PhD



Take a look at Erika Blacksher’s curriculum vitae and you will find someone who has devoted a career to a cause – bioethics.

During her time with the Center for Practical Bioethics, Ms. Blacksher undertook leadership roles in programs addressing end-of-life-care practices and health and healthcare disparities.

Prior to her time at the Center, she served as associate editor for the *Hastings Center Report*, one of the field’s leading journals. Over the years, she has been a prolific writer and presenter on a broad range of ethics issues, from pain management and renal dialysis to cultural diversity and health and healthcare disparities.

“The Center has broadened my view of social and health policy and the participatory role of communities and civic organizations can and should play in health policy,” says Ms. Blacksher. “My research will always have practical concerns about such policy in view.”

Ms. Blacksher points to her role in establishing disparities in health and healthcare as a working domain of the Center as a highlight of her time at the Center. “Calling this moral problem out in this way, giving it a slot so to speak, conveyed the Center’s awareness of and concern for this issue of social justice,” she says.

In the future, Ms. Blacksher hopes to always be a good ambassador for the Center, both in her research and scholarship and when talking broadly about the field of bioethics in the United States.

“The Center represents an important innovation in bioethics,” she says, “working to complement a field rich in scholarship with strategic and tactical ideas that communities and institutions can use to improve patient care.”