From reproduction to end of life and everything in between, we often say that bioethics affects everyone. What better and more fun way to think about these issues than film?

The Center is thrilled to partner this October with the Tivoli Cinema in Westport to present the inaugural Bioethics Film Series featuring three iconic films. Following screenings at 7 p.m., Center staff will lead discussion of each film’s major themes and lessons.

Tickets may be purchased from the Tivoli in advance or at the door (Adults $9, Students $7).

Frankenstein (1931)
Thursday, October 18 at 7 p.m.

Scholars recognize Mary Shelley’s novel, *Frankenstein; or the Modern Prometheus*, as one of the earliest depictions of how our attempts to control nature through science can have unintended and horrific consequences.

To celebrate the 200th anniversary of the novel’s publication in 1818, the Center will culminate the series with the original film masterpiece, *Frankenstein*, featuring Colin Clive as Dr. Henry Frankenstein and Boris Karloff as the monster. In the film, Henry creates a monster by exhuming body parts from dead people and placing a brain inside the monster’s head. When the monster mistakenly kills a young girl he meets by the river, the town seeks to bring the monster to justice. They find the monster and Henry in an old windmill where the monster is attempting to kill his maker. (Running Time: 1 hour, 10 minutes)

Gattaca (1997)
Thursday, October 4 at 7 p.m.

In a near future world, genetic profiling is used to identify “valids” to qualify for professional employment while “invalids” are left to hold menial jobs. Vincent Freeman (Ethan Hawke) is conceived the old-fashioned way. His brother Anton (Loren Dean), who Vincent saves from drowning, was not. Vincent decides to fight his fate by purchasing the genes of Jerome Morrow (Jude Law). He assumes Jerome’s DNA identity and joins the Gattaca space program, where he falls in love with Irene (Uma Thurman). An investigation into the death of a Gattaca officer (Gore Vidal) complicates Vincent’s plans.

“Everybody will live longer, look better and be healthier in the Gattacan world,” wrote film critic Roger Ebert. “But will it be as much fun? Will parents order children who are rebellious, ungainly, eccentric, creative, or a lot smarter than their parents are?” In 2011, NASA named Gattaca the most scientifically plausible science fiction movie. (Running Time: 1 hour, 48 minutes)
Healthcare innovation is speeding up, and Eva Karp relishes being in the forefront as senior vice president and chief clinical and patient safety officer at Cerner Corporation. Focusing on clinical and regulatory strategies and market direction, she also helps organizations navigate changes and trends in healthcare while integrating Cerner’s strategies and vision.

Eva joined Cerner in 2001 with more than 25 years in healthcare informatics and 12 years of neurological and surgical ICU clinical experience. Since then, she has held several positions including vice president of strategic solutions, chief nursing officer, and chair of the pediatric clinical solutions and strategy team. Her clinical experience and expertise in patient safety and quality have helped her navigate changes and trends in healthcare while integrating Cerner’s strategies and vision.

The Patient Voice

“I joined the Center’s board because of my passion to do what’s right and the Center’s focus on giving every person a voice about what happens to them in healthcare. Also,” she said, “the Center was instrumental in helping my mother-in-law have a plan for her care in the last stage of her life.”

The evening culminated with Lee Woodruff’s final address, which was a huge thank you to the visionaries, collaborators, and leaders who have helped the Bioethics Leadership Fund grow and thrive. The Center’s approach to practical bioethics is illustrated through the videoportraits of some of the key players in the center’s mission.

Nursing Leadership

Eva recently earned her doctorate in health administration from the Medical University of South Carolina. Her dissertation research focused on the impact of a patient history dataset in electronic health records on patient safety and satisfaction. She has held several leadership positions, including chief nursing officer at Cerner and chair of the pediatric clinical solutions and strategy team.

The 2018 Annual Dinner featured a videographic journey through the five elements of improvisation that illustrate the Center’s approach to practical bioethics: Collaboration, Structure, Knowledge, Confidence, and Creativity. Guests also enjoyed the formal launch of the Bioethics Leadership Fund, Sister Rosemary Flanigan’s announcement of the 2019 Nurse of the Year Award, and the Alliance for Quality Improvement and Patient Safety board’s presentation.

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2018 Annual Dinner Board Member Profile

Eva Karp, DHA, MBA, RN, BC, FACHE

The two aspects of the center’s work that interest Eva most are the national health crisis in African American communities and our initiative with Kansas City University of Medicine and Biosciences to develop metrics to assess students’ likelihood to succeed as doctors.

Eva is excited to chair the March of Dimes’ Nurse of the Year Awards in Kansas City on November 3. She also serves on the boards of the Alliance for Quality Improvement and Patient Safety, the American College of Healthcare Executives, and the Healthcare Information Management Systems Society conference peer reviewer. She is an executive sponsor and chair for the Pediatric Leadership Council, Chief Nursing Officers Forum, and Patient Care Executive Council.

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Big Fish (2003)

Thursday, October 11 at 7 p.m.

Edward (Albert Finney) embarrasses his son, William, at his wedding by telling guests an impossible-sounding story about Will's birth, involving a giant catfish that ate his wedding ring. Will (Billy Crudup) believes that his father tells lies to get attention and angrily confronts him.

When Will investigates his father's tales, he begins to understand his storytelling. At Edward's funeral, Will is astonished to see all of the characters from Edward's stories, though less fantastical, come to pay their respects. It finally becomes clear to Will that Edward had combined storytelling with his own reality. When his own son is born, Will realizes that his father became his stories—allowing him to live forever.

The film's theme of reconciliation between a dying father and his son had special significance for Tim Burton, the director, whose father died in 2000 and mother in 2002. Burton's father was a man of few words, who often told stories about his father's father, a fisherman who had caught a large fish while fishing in the Gulf of Mexico. Burton said that his father, who had died of cancer, was a man who was always looking for answers to the big questions of life.

The film's running time is 2 hours, 5 minutes.

KUMC and KCU, Terry Rosell, DMin, are the door are appreciated.

Sponsorship Opportunities

For Bioethics Education

Center Staff Respond to Need

Ask a Bioethicist!
ANNOUNCEMENTS

GRANTS AWARDED

John & Wauna Harman Foundation – To increase advance care planning in African American faith communities

Sunflower Foundation – To identify strategies to detect, address and prevent elder abuse in Kansas

H&R Block – To develop a strategy to establish elder abuse shelters in Missouri and Kansas

American Century – To support PAINS-KC Citizen Leaders

ON THE AIR

KCUR Central Standard
The Stories and Ethics of DNA Testing
July 3, with Richard Payne, MD
kcur.org/post/stories-and-ethics-dna-testing

Outpatients: The Astonishing New World of Medical Tourism
July 23, with Tarris Rosell, DMin, PhD
kcur.org/post/medical-tourism

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