

History as a Path to the Future

9 Lessons Learned in Bioethics Practice

CPB Board/Staff Retreat 2024

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Disclosures

In regard to this presentation, Tarris Rosell has no relevant conflicts of interest to disclose, financial or otherwise.

And . . .



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Disclosures

I do plan to
retire as of
December 31,
2024.



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My Assignment:

“Reflections on how your service as Flanigan Chair may inform the Center moving ahead in 2024 and beyond.”



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30 Years of Bioethics Practice

- ... with several bioethics departments and “Centers”
 - 1994-2002 – Vanderbilt Center for Clinical and Research Ethics (student, intern, fellow, TA, dissertation researcher, consultant, lecturer)
 - 1999-2004 – Midwest Bioethics Center (constituent, volunteer)
 - 2004-2024 – Center for Practical Bioethics (Program Associate, Rosemary Flanigan Chair)
 - 2009-2024 – KUMC-SOM Department of History & Philosophy of Medicine / Clendening Library and Museum / UKHS Hospital Ethics (Clinical Faculty; Co-Director of Clendening Summer Fellowships; Director of Ethics Consultation Team; Co-Chair of Hospital Ethics Committee)
 - 2007-2021 – KCU Department of Bioethics (Adjunct Faculty; Chair: 2013-19)



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How is this a path to the future?



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Words of Wisdom from the Past . . .

"The further backward you can look, the further forward you are likely to see." - Winston Churchill

"Those who cannot learn from history are doomed to repeat it." - George Santayana

"There is nothing new under the sun." – Ecclesiastes 1:9

"History is a gallery of pictures in which there are few originals and many copies." - Alexis de Tocqueville



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So . . .

with caveats,
a few pictures,
and not much originality...



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Book Project

Life Lessons
Learned
at a Potter's
Wheel



So . . .

Lessons Learned
In Bioethics
Practice

*Lessons
Learned
in
Bioethics
Practice*

- 1. I am expendable and replaceable.
(So are you.)**



Book Project

Baptists, Bullets, and the Bible

*Lessons
Learned
in
Bioethics
Practice*

2. Grant-funded projects can enable worthy work in bioethics.

So . . .

- Go hunting.
- Buckshot is an expensive and inefficient way to hit a bullseye.
- Aim well.
- Shoot straight.
- Keep your guns locked up.

*Lessons
Learned
in
Bioethics
Practice*

- 3. Contracts for bioethics services can be better than hunting for grant dollars**

*Lessons
Learned
in
Bioethics
Practice*

4. **It's not all about the money . . .**
 - **Not personally**
 - **Not corporately**

*Lessons
Learned
in
Bioethics
Practice*

**5. Serendipities happen.
(But they don't JUST happen .
..)**

LUCA'S TOOLBOX



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by
Tarris Rosell

Illustrated by
Hannah Lloyd Rosell

Book Project

Luca's Toolbox



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*Lessons
Learned
in
Bioethics
Practice*

- 6. Bioethics practice requires the right tools**

WILLIAM
&
MRS PICKLEBOTTOM



A TALE OF TWO BIRD FRIENDS

by
Tarris Rosell

Illustrated by
Hannah Lloyd Rosell



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Book Project

William & Mrs Picklebottom

*Lessons
Learned
in
Bioethics
Practice*

7. We all need friends

*Lessons
Learned
in
Bioethics
Practice*

- 8. Retire someday
(and not too late . . .)**

*Lessons
Learned
in
Bioethics
Practice*

9. **Remember to say Thank You**

