



Provost's Lecture Series will host Adrienne Asch on Tuesday , November 3

Eric W. Kaler, Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs

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To: Faculty and Staff

Dear Colleagues,

I am writing to invite you to a Provost's lecture by Adrienne Asch, who is best known for her work in bioethics and disability rights. We are particularly pleased to host Professor Asch in connection with our celebration of the American's with Disabilities Act, established almost two decades ago. Professor Asch's lecture, entitled *Disability and Bioethics: Can Controversies be Resolved?*, will take place on Tuesday, November 3, at 2:30 p.m. in the Student Activities Center, Ballroom A. Her talk will explore the 40-year dialogue between the fields of bioethics and disability scholarship, and the criticism of bioethics for its over-medicalized view of illness and disability and for equating a high quality of life with a particular level of health and physical/cognitive functioning. She will discuss how shared interests in self-determination, patient empowerment, respect for persons, and commitments to justice for disadvantaged minorities should promote future collaboration.

Adrienne Asch received her B.A. in Philosophy from Swarthmore College, and M.S. in Social Work, Community Organization and Planning and Ph.D. in Social Psychology from Columbia University. A longtime member of the Society for Disability Studies, she served as President from 1996 - 1998. As a board member of the American Society for Bioethics and Humanities, Professor Asch co-chaired the Task Force on Disability and Bioethics from 2000 - 2001.

Adrienne Asch is the Director of the Center for Ethics at Yeshiva University, where she holds appointments at the Albert Einstein College of Medicine and the Wurzweiler School of Social Work. Her work focuses on ethical issues in reproduction, death and dying, and justice for disadvantaged minorities in American society. She is a member of the New York State Task Force on Life and the Law, board member of the Society for Jewish Ethics, the Academic Coalition for Jewish Bioethics, and the American Civil Liberties Union. She is also a Fellow of the Hastings Center and of the Society for the Psychological Study of Social Issues. In addition, she has authored numerous articles and book chapters, and is the co-editor of *Prenatal Testing and Disability Rights* and *The Double-Edged Helix: Social Implications of Genetics in a Diverse Society*.

We are honored to host Professor Asch and encourage you to join us and pass along this information to students or community members who may be interested in attending this special event. Seating for this lecture is limited and on a first come first serve basis. For further details on this and other Provost's lectures please view:

www.stonybrook.edu/sb/provlec

Eric W. Kaler

Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs