

**Bertram Morris** (1908-1981) was born in Denver. Educated at Princeton and Cornell, he taught at the University of Colorado from 1947 until his retirement in 1977. He published several books including *The Aesthetic Process*, *Philosophical Aspects of Culture*, and *Institutions of Intelligence*.

Bertram Morris is remembered as much for his committed involvement in the social issues of his community as for his scholarly work. In 1953 he began an outreach program at Manual High School in Denver that still continues. In 1975 he was given a special award by the American Civil Liberties Union of Colorado for his efforts on behalf of academic freedom and his work to improve conditions at the Boulder County Jail.

As an expression of admiration and gratitude, the Philosophy Department established this colloquium when Bertram Morris retired in 1977.

### Help Us Continue the Bertram Morris Colloquium on Social Philosophy

University faculty, staff, former students, and friends of Bertram Morris have now contributed approximately \$30,000 to our endowment campaign. Our goal for the endowment is \$40,000. Please help us reach it—send your tax deductible contribution to the University of Colorado Foundation, Boulder, CO 80309.

Eleventh Annual  
**Bertram Morris  
Colloquium  
on Social Philosophy**

# Ethics and Medical Technology

February 27 and 28, 1987



Cosponsored by the  
Department of Philosophy  
University of Colorado  
at Boulder  
and  
Boulder Community Hospital  
and the  
United Medical Staff  
of Boulder

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# Ethics and Medical Technology

## Friday, February 27

All sessions in Old Main Chapel

3:30 p.m.

**Presiding:** James W. Nickel, Director, Center for Values and Social Policy, CU Boulder

**Welcome:** Dean Evelyn Fiescher, CU Boulder

**Speaker:** Professor Deborah Mathieu, University of Arizona

**Title:** "Ethical Issues in Organ Substitution Technology"

8:00 p.m.

**Presiding:** Lawson Crowe, Professor of Philosophy, CU Boulder

**Speaker:** Professor Stanley J. Reiser, University of Texas

**Title:** "Technology and the Ethical Dilemma of When to Save No"

9:30 p.m.

**Reception—Koenig Alumni Center**

## Saturday, February 28

All sessions in Duane Physics Building, Room G020

10:00 a.m.

**Presiding:** Frank Marsh, Professor of Medical Ethics, University of Colorado Health Sciences Center

**Speaker:** Professor Allen Buchanan, University of Arizona

**Title:** "Advanced Directives: Increasing Our Control Over Medical Technology"

1:00 p.m.

**Presiding:** Gary Stahl, Professor of Philosophy, CU Boulder

**Speaker:** Professor Leslie Francis, University of Utah

**Title:** "Do New Medical Technologies Raise New Problems of Distributive Justice?"

3:00 p.m.

**Panel Discussion:** "Coping with Technological Change in Health Care"

**Moderator:** Ann Davis, Assistant Professor of Philosophy, CU Boulder

**Panelists:**

1. Professor John Sparks, University of Colorado Health Sciences Center

2. Professor Phyllis Updike, University of Colorado Health Sciences Center

3. Dee Crouch, M.D., Boulder Community Hospital

## Continuing Medical Education Credit

AMA Category 1, 5 credit hours; AAFP credit applied for, 5 hours; 5 contact hours for nurses, Boulder Community Hospital, is accredited by the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Hospitals.

**Allen Buchanan** is Professor of Philosophy at the University of Arizona. He served on the President's Commission on the Study of Ethical Problems in Medicine. He has published many articles in bioethics and is currently working on a book about decision making on behalf of incompetent patients.

**Dee Crouch, M.D.**, is a specialist in emergency medicine with a longstanding interest in bioethics. He practices at Boulder Community Hospital.

**Leslie Francis, Ph.D., J.D.**, is an associate professor at the College of Law, University of Utah where she has been Leary Scholar for three years. She coedited the book *Should Medical Care Be Rationed by Age?* and among her writings on medical ethics issues are "Poverty, Age Discrimination, and Health Care" and "Assisting Suicide."

**Deborah Mathieu** has a joint appointment in both Political Science and Philosophy at the University of Arizona. She is currently editing a book on the ethics of organ substitution technology and has published articles on medical ethics issues.

**Stanley J. Reiser** is the Griff T. Ross Professor of Humanities and Technology and Health Care at the University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston. Among his publications are the books *Ethics in Medicine, Medicine and the Reign of Technology*, and *Machina at the Bedside*.

**John Sparks, M.D.**, is an associate professor of pediatrics at the University of Colorado Health Sciences Center. At University Hospital, he is director of Newborn Services and chairs the Ethics Committee.

**Phyllis Updike, D.N.S., R.N.**, is an assistant professor in the Graduate Program, University of Colorado Health Sciences Center, School of Nursing. She teaches pediatrics in the Neonatal Program and is a faculty associate in the

norms. For example, with expanded power provided by technology, the unqualified prescription "Save lives!" sometimes leads to budget crises and miserable patients.

3. By enabling us, if we are willing to spend a lot of money, to do things we formerly could not do, thus raising questions of fairness in the distribution of these services and questions of affordability when these services become widely used, leading to considerations of "rationing."

4. By raising questions of whether (or how much of) these services are worth providing given what they require us to forego elsewhere ("opportunity costs").

5. By transforming the nature of medical practice, often into something using elaborate machinery and having

**The Department of Philosophy** presents the eleventh annual Colloquium on Social Philosophy in honor of its late colleague Bertram Morris and as a service to the community. Reflecting the commitments of its namesake, each colloquium offers philosophical perspectives on a particular social issue. This year's colloquium is concerned with social problems and ethical dilemmas generated by the use of advanced medical technology. Technology generates these problems in some of the following ways:

1. By enabling us to control things we formerly couldn't routinely control, thus making it necessary to have criteria for when to exercise this control, or to decide who should be given control over these decisions (e.g., doctors, families, courts, ethics committees).