The Centre for Ethics at the University of Iceland

**A doctoral course on "Research ethics" in Iceland in the Fall 2010.**

**Tuesday September 21:**

**Morning:**

Pekka Louhiala, University of Helsinki:

9:00–10:00 Lecture: What are placebo and placebo effect?

Coffee break

10:30–12:00 Practical assignment: The justification of placebos in studies on new antidepressants.

Lunch

**Afternoon:**

Ruth Macklin, Albert Einstein College of Medicine:

13:30–15:00 Lecture: Ethical Issues in research in developing countries.

Coffee break:

15:30–17:00 Practical assignments and discussion groups

18:00 Optional participation in a traditional evening song in the church

19:00 Dinner

20:00–22:00 Roundtable discussion: Student’s describe their final theses.

**Wednesday September 22:**

**Morning:**

Bjørn Hofmann, University College of Gjøvik and University of Oslo

9–10 Lecture: Science ethics: publication ethics and scientific misconduct – are scientists more honest than other professionals?

Coffee break
10:30−12  Practical assignments and discussion groups

**Readings for Pekka Louhiala's part:**


**Readings for Ruth Macklin's part:**


**Readings for Bjørn Hofmann's part:**


Study Available from:
http://www.kstate.edu/honor/honorsystem/researchlinks/mccabesurvey2003/survey03.htm

Note about format:

The students should prepare for the session before the course. The assignment could be as follows:

Pekka Louhiala: "After the morning lecture on Tuesday the students are divided into two groups. One group prepares a presentation arguing FOR the use of placebos in studies on new antidepressants, the other group prepares a presentation AGAINST it."

The teachers:

Pekka Louhiala is a lecturer in medical ethics at the University of Helsinki, Finland. He has degrees in both medicine and philosophy, and he also works as a part-time paediatrician in private practice. He has published on various topics in medical ethics, philosophy of medicine and epidemiology. His current academic interests include conceptual and philosophical issues in medicine, such as alternative medicine and placebo effects.

Ruth Macklin is Professor of Bioethics in the Department of Epidemiology and Population Health at Albert Einstein College of Medicine in the Bronx, New York. She is a member of the Vaccine Advisory Committee of the HIV Vaccine Initiative at the World Health Organization and an elected member of the Institute of Medicine of the U.S. National Academies of Science. She is a past president of the International Association of Bioethics and was recently re-elected to its Board of Directors. Dr. Macklin is author or editor of 11 books and has more than 200 published articles.

Bjørn Hofmann is professor at the University College of Gjøvik and adjunct professor at the Section for Medical Ethics, Faculty of Medicine, University of Oslo. He is trained both in the natural sciences (electronics, physics and biomedical engineering) and in the humanities (philosophy and history of ideas). He holds a Ph.D. in philosophy of medicine from the University of Oslo (2002). His fields of research are philosophy of science, medical ethics, science and technology studies and health technology assessment.