

# Meeting Highlights

GENERAL COMMISSION ON BIOETHICS

FEBRUARY 17 - 18, 2015

ROME, ITALY





# GOAL & PURPOSE OF COMMISSION FEBRUARY 2015 MEETING

- **Review the role of the General Bioethics Commission.**
- **Review the Function of the Regional Commissions.**
- **Update the process of creating a Bioethics Digital Journal**  
*(magazine).*
- **Plan the date, purpose, outline and timetable for the 2017 Bioethical Congress of the Order in Lima, Peru.**
- **Reports from the Regional Commissions.**
- **Surface topic of discussion for next meeting – Public Health Implications of Ebola was identified.**

# BIOETHICS COMMISSION GENERAL & REGION

- **Animate Bioethical Reflection.**
- **Ensure that each Province has one person assigned to be the person that facilitates Bioethics, thinking, reflection, and study.**
- **Ensure that each Province has a Bioethics Committee**

# AREAS IDENTIFIED FOR BIOETHICAL ANALYSIS

- **Mental**
- **Clinical**
- **Social**
- **Management**
- **Care**
- **Humanization**
- **Environmental/Ecology**

# ELEMENTS OF BIOETHICS

- **Its important that the responsible person for Bioethics is certified or has proper education or experience.**
- **Two important tasks of the Bioethics committee is that of :**
  - **Formation**
  - **Consultation for decision making**
- **There are documents published by the Order which can be found on the Order's Webpage.**

# INTERNATIONAL PROJECT DIGITAL BIOETHICS MAGAZINE

- **Digital Magazine, a professional Journal, of academic stature with articles compiled by 12 universities and the Hospitaller Order of St. John of God.**
- **Published Quarterly and to begin in 2018**
- **There will be 8 to 10 articles per issue**
- **Each Institution appoints a co-editors & responsible person.**
- **Articles will be in Portuguese, Spanish or English.**
- **The University of Comillas will coordinate the magazine.**
- **Co-Directors: Mario Sanchez and Javier de la Torre.**

# BIOETHICS CONGRESS OVERVIEW

- **Date: September 10-14, 2017**
- **Location: Lima, Peru**
- **Panorama of Themes**
  - **Hospitality and Bioethics Past**
  - **Hospitality and Bioethics Present**
  - **Hospitality and Bioethics Future**
- **Goals of the Congress**
  - **The voice of the Order to be heard regarding Bioethics**
  - **Promotion of the works in Bioethics**
  - **Offer space for learning**



# Bioethics Congress Overview

## ■ Committees

- Organization – Bermejo, Benigno, Silva, Peru Provincial
- Scientific – Comprise of general commission members

## ■ Speakers of Each Sessions

- Names requested

## ■ Decided to have a permanent exhibition of Posters from each Province

- Criteria will be formed by committee
- Idea is to have 6 points regarding works, challenges and means of coming to a conclusion on bioethics challenges

## ■ Cost of Congress

- Br. Bermejo, O.H. estimates 3,000 euros (est. \$3,500 USD)
- Pay before May 1, 2017 Discount – After May 1 Full Price
- Find Sponsors to help those attend who can't afford
- Want participation from all especially those with little bioethics structure.

## ■ Moderator of Congress

- Silva from Argentina

# Bioethics Congress Overview

## For Next Meeting

- Respond to New Schedule by Salvino by Holy Week
- Get Names of those attending the Congress
- Check for proper Visa Requirements for entering Peru
- Obtain from Provincials who is the bioethics representative from the Province.
- 2 or 3 names for Speakers
- Logo Design for the Congress

# **Bioethics Congress Overview**

## **Formal Invitation Letter**

- **Welcome**
- **Committees**
- **Date/Time**
- **Location**
- **Theme**
- **Participants**
- **Requirements for the Poster**

# Regional Group Committee Assignments

- **Asia Pacific Committee**
  - **Brother Stephen de la Rosa, O.H.**
  - **Brother John Conway, O.H.**
  - **Anna Shakespeare**

# REGIONAL REPORTS

- **Europe no longer has a Bioethics Regional Commission. Provincials in the Region decided that their Bioethics Committees are functioning and the diversity in legal systems make it difficult to have a Commission.**
- **Latin America is working on the Goals of the Provincial Chapters.**
- **Africa is working on naming Committees and Responsible person.**
- **Asian Pacific Region is in the Process of Identify the needs in the Region and how to assist Provinces/Delegations that do not have a Bioethics Committee.**

# ASIA PACIFIC REGIONAL WORK SETTING ACHIEVABLE GOALS FOR THE FUTURE

## ■ Challenges

- Time/Distance/Limited Funding
- The phenomena of having to start over after each Provincial Chapter
- Bioethical committees are nonexistent in one Delegation and one Province.

## ■ Needs

- Appoint one person accountable in each Province/Delegation of the Region.
- Develop/Cultivate an awareness of the need for Bioethics reflection and/or Committee to deal with urgent questions arising in the clinical or organizational setting of the Region.

# Asia Pacific Regional Work

## Setting Achievable Goals for the Future

### ■ Future Works

- Set up Web-conference meeting of the Asia Pacific Bioethics Sub-Commission prior to the Asian Pacific Regional Commission meeting in June 2015.
- Use the material developed for the pre-conference of the First Congress of the General Commission on Bioethics of the Order, as a means of forming members of the Asia Pacific Bioethics Sub-Commission on themes of Bioethics relevant to the region. [Congress Venue – Lima, Peru Date – September 10 – 14, 2017]
- Design educational PowerPoint modules to develop formation and instruction on Bioethics dilemmas' in the Region.
  - A Basic Orientation to an Approach to Bioethics and role of a Committee.
  - Have a person appointed in each Province that facilitates Bioethics for the Province/Delegation.
- Develop a reference list of resources in Bioethics available in the Region.

# NEXT MEETING OF THE GENERAL COMMISSION ON BIOETHICS

- **June 16-17, 2015 Rome, Italy**
- **Discussion for Next Meeting**
  - **World Congress on Bioethics Update**
  - **Digital Journal Update**
  - **Ebola Response**

