



ProVita

Online Newsletter of the
University Faculty for Life



In this edition we look forward to next year's conference at Fordham in the Bronx. We also focus on the many recent accomplishments of our members.

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UFL Updates

In which we highlight the activities of our organization, members, and chapters, including publications, talks, and consultations.

UFL

➤ **2014 Conference.** Plan now for the 2014 UFL Twenty-Fourth Annual Conference "Life and Learning XXIV" to be held June 6-7, 2014 at Fordham University, Bronx NY.

Attendance is open to current or former college, university, and seminary faculty and their spouses, graduate students, and others by individual request.

Registration is now open. Regular reservations are \$50. The student rate is \$25. You can register [at this site](#).

Information about the banquet, accommodations, and financial aid can be found when you click on either of the "Registration" or "Student Registration" link at the above site. I am also providing it below.

Helen Alvaré will receive the annual Smith Award at the opening plenary session on Friday evening, and Erika Bachiochi will present a plenary session on Saturday. There will be concurrent sessions for the delivery of papers accepted on the basis of the submission of abstracts. This is an interdisciplinary conference devoted to academic discussion of abortion, infanticide, and euthanasia.

There will be an awards banquet on Saturday that is included in the conference registration fee. On Friday evening there will be a light supper provided free of charge to registered participants.

Accommodations: Lodging is available on the Rose Hill campus. You may reserve a room at the subsidized price of \$40.00 per person per night. Accommodations include complimentary breakfast and lunch. Please specify which nights you want to reserve: Friday June 6, 2014, Saturday June 7, 2014, or both. There are also many hotels near the Fordham campus which offer a discounted rate for Fordham guests. [Download](#) a list of hotels that offer a discounted "Fordham Rate."

Financial Aid: There is a limited amount of financial aid available to subsidize the price of conference registration and banquet registration. Please contact Fr Joseph Koterski SJ directly at koterski@fordham.edu.

- ***Scholarly Achievement Award.***
University Faculty for Life is accepting submissions from college or university students for its Scholarly Achievement Award. The contest is open to undergraduate and graduate students at any higher education institution (community college, medical school, seminary, university, etc.); postsecondary students enrolled in college-level courses are eligible as well. The deadline is May 24, 2014. For more information, see the end of this newsletter.
- ***Life and Learning Proceedings.***
The UFL's conference proceedings are available through the 2009 conference at [UFL Annual Proceedings](#) link on the UFL web page.
- ***Dr. Jerome Lejeune.*** Here is an [interview by Peter Jesserer Smith in The National Catholic Register with Aude Dugast](#), who is working for the canonization (declaration of sainthood) in the Catholic Church of Dr. Jerome Lejeune, who discovered the genetic cause of Down's Syndrome and who was an advisor for University Faculty for Life until his death in 1994. Lejeune's choice to defend the unborn Down's Syndrome babies against abortion cost him his career as the preeminent genetic biologist.

Publications and member activities

- **Monica Miller** (theology) spoke on "Evangelizing with the Gospel of Life" at the fourth annual "Life is a Gift" conference at Sacred Heart Major Seminary in Detroit, held January 25, 2014.
- **Monica Miller** and **Janet Smith** (theology) both wrote reviews of the movie Noah [Crisis Magazine](#) and [CatholicVote](#) respectively. Both review, while acknowledging flaws, note the life-affirming nature of the movie.
- In "[Abortion and Social Justice: How Pro-Life Advocates are Meeting the Needs of Women Facing Crisis Pregnancies](#)," the

Christian Post covers the recent presentation by **Fr. Joe Koterski** (philosophy), UFL board member, to the January 21, 2014 National Convention of Students for Life.

Joseph Koterski, associate professor of philosophy at Fordham University, urged the pro-life audience to "go out in evangelization, go out in charity, go out to those really and truly in need, and you will speak values." Only by reaching out in love will their arguments actually convince other people.

Fr. Koterski also gave the final lecture of this year's Art of the Beautiful series on Saturday, February 15th at the Catholic Center at NYU. Father Koterski's subject was Virtue and the Artistic Imagination. The series is sponsored by the Catholic Artists Society and the Thomistic Institute.

- Long-time UFL member **Fr. James V. Schall, S.J.** (political science) explains in [Catholic World Report 15 destructive lies that dominate our culture](#). The first on the list:

...that abortion does not kill a specific, actual human being. All evidence shows that this killing is true. To hold the lie in our souls, we must and do call it a "right" or a "choice" that allows us to pretend that we know not what we do.

The third one is:

...that euthanasia is a "right" to kill oneself or have others do so for us. It is made legitimate by the civil law. Euthanasia is self-inflicted suicide, not an act of compassion or autonomy over ourselves.

- **Lucia A. Silecchia** (law) has three recent publications:

In "[The Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities: Reflections on Four Flaws that Tarnish its Promise](#)," Silecchia critiques, among other things, the way in which the Convention fails to protect the dignity of all

human life. *Journal of Contemporary Health Law and Policy*, Vol. 30, No. 1, 2013.

In the first of two articles for a general audience, “[Opening Doors to Life](#),” Silecchia comments on the high rate of abortion for infants with a prenatal diagnosis of a disability ([National Review On-Line](#), Dec. 4, 2013).

In an opinion piece in the Wall Street Journal, “[Peter Stuyvesant vs. the Quakers: How a revolt in Dutch New York planted the seeds for the right to religious free expression](#),” Silecchia comments on religious liberty with the hopes that it highlights parallels to today’s debates on the same issue. *The Wall Street Journal*, Jan. 10, 2014, A11.

- **Peter Colosi** (moral theology) gave a talk called “[Ratzinger, Habermas and Pera on Public Reason and Religion](#)” about the importance of specifically religious discourse in public square debates about moral issues, including esp. the life issues. He focuses on the dialogue between Habermas, Pera, and Benedict XVI/Ratzinger. He points out, for instance, that Habermas promotes the idea that religious ideas should have equal footing in public discourse, according the same kind of respect by secularists that any other ideas are afforded. He thinks that society at large and secularists specifically can learn from specifically religious arguments for moral positions. Pera, an atheist, even holds that even if no one actually believes in the doctrines of Christianity, that civilization will only survive if we build our public life on the principles of Christian (Catholic) Social Teaching as articulated by believers. Ratzinger, although he agrees with Habermas and Pera, further argues, that there needs to be the Christian witness of persons who have a living faith in order for the teachings to having positive effect in the public life of society.
- **Lynn Wardle** (law) appeared on a panel at the University of La Verne College of Law Law Review Symposium on February 28,

2014, focused on “Cause Lawyering.” The panel, which focused on reproductive rights also included a lawyer for the ACLU and a lawyer for Planned Parenthood.

- **John M. Grondelski** (moral theology) has written a review of the e-book *Gosnell’s Babies: The E-book*, by Steve Volk. The review appears in the Fall 2013 issue of [the Human Life Review](#). According to Amazon.com, Volk is the only journalist to have interviewed Gosnell since his conviction and imprisonment. Volk provides a more or less sympathetic look at Gosnell. As Grondelski’s review says, however, “[I]n Gosnell one sees the logic of the abortion establishment carried to its logical extension, though shorn of the mellifluous faux compassion masquerading as a verbal fig leaf that covers up what we want to do but not to admit.”
- **Francis Beckwith’s** (political science) talk, “On Making the Case for Life: St. Peter’s Counsel to Always Be Ready,” which he gave at a Vatican conference on John Paul II’s encyclical, *Evangelium Vitae*, was recently published in *National Catholic Bioethics Quarterly* (Winter, 2014). You can find [a link to it](#) on Beckwith’s blog, *Return to Rome*.
- **Richard Fehring** (nursing) wrote “Current Medical Research*Winter–Spring 2013.” *The Linacre Quarterly*, 81(1), pp. 58–70.

He also wrote with Qiyang Mu, RN, “Efficacy of Achieving Pregnancy with Fertility-Focused Intercourse,” *MCN, American Journal of Maternal Child Nursing* 39:1 (January-February 2014),35-40. doi: 10.1097/NMC.0b013e3182a76b88, The purpose of the research was “[t]o compare pregnancy rates when women have intercourse on self-estimated high and peak fertile days and when they only have intercourse on low fertile days during the fertile window.”
- Several UFL members participated in the Symposium called “Truth, Conscience, and

Religious Freedom,” Sponsored by the Veritas Center for Ethics in Public Life at Franciscan University Steubenville on April 4-5, 214, including "The Culture of Religious Liberty" by Prof. **Gerard V. Bradley** (law); "The Founders' Philosophy of Religious Freedom," by Dr. **Vincent Philip Munoz** (political science); "Rethinking the 'Non-Establishment' Principle: Text, Structure, and the Politics of Power," by Prof. **Robert A. Destro** (law); "The Human Right to Religious Liberty: How Does the U.S. Measure Up?" by **William Saunders** (law); The "Franciscan University Faculty Commentary Panel," included **Dr. John Crosby** (philosophy), **D. Brian Scarnecchia** (legal studies), **Kevin Miller** (moral theology) and **Jonathan Sanford**.

- **Teresa Stanton Collett** (law) wrote "Previability Abortion and the Pain of the Unborn" which is available from the University of St. Thomas (Minnesota) Legal Studies Research Paper No. 14-01. "This article explores the arguments supporting the existence of fetal pain and the constitutionality of abortion limits at twenty weeks gestation." It will be published in a forthcoming issue of the *Washington & Lee Law Review*.

She also wrote an *amicus curae* brief in the Hobby Lobby case on behalf of the John A. Ryan Institute for Catholic Social Thought in support of non-Government parties. January 28, 2014. <http://www.becketfund.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/01/Ryan-Institute-21.pdf>. "There is nothing inherent in the legal form or status of a corporation that precludes religious motivations and ideals as the basis or bases of the human associations comprising the corporation, and that the choice to adopt the corporate form for pooling of capital, refinement of skills, and allocation of financial rewards and liability does not evidence a rejection of religious values or beliefs.... When a corporation acts on the basis of the religious beliefs it is entitled to protection under the Religious

Freedom Restoration Act and Free Exercise Clause of the First Amendment"

Tom Berg also submitted an *amicus curae* brief. Berg's brief, filed on behalf of Democrats for Life of America and former Rep. Bart Stupak. "America has a strong tradition of accommodating objections to facilitating abortion. The Plaintiffs have a colorable basis for fearing that the drugs at issue will cause abortions and it is their definition of abortion, not the government's that is relevant. The Mandate imposes a substantial burden on the exercise of religion that is not justified by a compelling interest and the least restrictive means of accomplishing that interest."

<http://www.adfmedia.org/files/ConestogaAmicusList.pdf>

- **Keith Cassidy** (history), contributed a chapter, "A convenient untruth: The Pro-Choice Invention of an Era of Abortion Freedom," to *Catholicism and Historical Narrative: A Catholic Engagement with Historical Narrative: A Catholic Engagement with Historical Scholarship*, Kevin Schmiesing, ed. (Lanham, MD: Rowman & Littlefield, 2014). 73-102.
- **Christopher Kaczor** (moral theology) and Jennifer Kaczor wrote *The Seven Big Myths about Marriage: Wisdom from Faith, Philosophy, and Science about Happiness and Love* (San Francisco: Ignatius Press 2014).
- **Fr. John Conley, SJ** (philosophy) continued to contribute to America magazine. His columns included "And Then the Children" 210:11 (3/31/2014), 29. "In the article, the author discusses the move by the Belgian government as of late March 2014 to allow euthanasia for children."; "Sabbath Spaces," 210:7 (3/3/2014), 24-24."The author contends that Sunday is the contemplative space given to help Christians discovery who they really are."; "Postmodern Catholicism," 210:3 (2/3/2014), 34. "The article discusses some of the postmodern unhinging Catholicism has undergone."

- Fr. Conley has also published a book review: «'Écriture de soi: lettres et récits autobiographiques des religieuses de Port-Royal. Angélique et Agnès Arnauld, Angélique de Saint-Jean Arnauld d'Andilly, Jacqueline Pascal.» *French Studies*, 68 :1 (Jan. 2014), 101-102.
- **Helen Alvaré** (law) wrote the Forward to the book *Tiny Blue Lines: Reclaiming Your Life, Preparing for Your Baby, and Moving Forward with Faith in an Unplanned Pregnancy*, by Chaunie Marie Brusie (Notre Dame, Ind.: Ave Maria Press, 2014).
 - **Gerald Bradley** (law) wrote “[The Pro-Life Movement, Forty-One Years After Roe](#),” for the *Public Discourse* web page of the Witherspoon Institute. (Jan. 22, 2014) and “[The State Marriage Defense Act](#),” (Jan. 10, 2014). “[Eric Holder and the Spirit of Windsor](#)” a bench memo for National Review Online (2/12/14).
 - **Richard Doerflinger** wrote “A Careful Reading.” *America*, 210:12 (4/7/2014) 21-26. “The article focuses on issues surrounding the U.S. Affordable Care Act which became law in March 2010.” He also wrote “On Abortion Rates: Good News and Cause for Reflection.” *Human Life Review*, 40:1 (Winter2014), 127-131.
 - **Anne Barbeau Gardiner** (English) wrote “Ten Years in Prison,” *New Oxford Review*. 81:3 (Apr2014) 43-45 and “Lust Hard by Hate,” *New Oxford Review*, 81:2 (Mar2014), 41-42. “The author reflects on the deep connection of lust and hate.”
 - **Scott Hahn** (theology) wrote the volume on the book of Job for the Ignatius Catholic Study Bible (San Francisco: Ignatius Press, 2014).
 - **James Hanink** (philosophy) wrote “The Political Humanism of Hannah Arendt,” *Review of Metaphysics*, 67:3 (Mar. 2014), 647-648.
 - **Richard Stith** (law) will soon be publishing “Construction vs. Development: Polarizing Models of Human Gestation” in the December 2014 *Kennedy Institute of Ethics Journal* The article is written in an ideologically and politically neutral fashion, to render it more useful both to scholars and to activists. But it contains a new and more telling demonstration that the early embryo has human rights like the rest of us, more telling because the article first sympathetically discusses how and why our own position may reasonably and in good faith seem absurd to those who support lethal embryo research or early abortion.
- Based on the above analysis, the article tacitly suggests a bifurcated pro-life strategy: Up to about twelve weeks gestation, and perhaps even beyond, we should use “backward-looking” language, language looking back to past human development, in order to make developmental continuity become not only cognitively accepted but also fully intuitive.
- Only after 12 weeks or so can one effectively use “forward-looking” language, language looking to future human development, along with photos, emphasizing that everything is there, that the baby just needs to grow & mature (as Jack Willke always has said).
- It contains other details useful in day-to-day tactics as well. I'd be happy to send a near-final draft to anyone who would like to see it.
- *Contraception and Persecution*. by Charles E. Rice, Steve Mosher (Preface), Alyssa Bormes (Introduction). (St. Augustines Press, 2014).
- ## Social Networking
- Don't forget, UFL is on Facebook, Twitter, and Linked In. On Facebook you can “like” the “University Faculty for Life” page. On Twitter follow “Faculty4Life”. Our blog can be found at www.uffl.org/blog/. There is also an active “University Faculty for Life”

subgroup of the “Pro-life Professionals” group on LinkedIn.

Scholarly Opportunities

I*we highlight opportunities for members to engage in further research on and networking regarding the issues of abortion, infanticide, and euthanasia in their respective fields.*

- The Eleventh Annual [LifeTech Conference](#) addressing “Current Perspectives on Pro-life Science, Technology, and Bioethics.” will be held Saturday, September 6 at the Mandalay in Dayton, Ohio. The theme for this year’s conference is “21st Century Technology for the Pro-Life Movement.” “Physicians, Engineers, Scientists, College Professors, and others come together to present and learn about Pro-Life issues.” **Jeff Koloze** (English, of UFL) will be presenting a paper titled “Technology Meets Rhetoric: A Rogerian Methodological Review of the Visual Rhetoric of Websites and Social Media Vehicles Concerned with the Life Issues.” in September. The conference can be found at [/](#).

On campus

- **UC-Santa Barbara.** This [National Catholic Register article](#) talks about two pro-life activists, Thrin and Joan Short, who were harassed by a faculty member at University of California–Santa Barbara.
- **Notre Dame.** According to the [Catholic News Service article](#), on February 21st a Chicago appellate court upheld a lower court decision that denied Notre Dame a temporary delay in implementing the HHS mandate while Notre Dame pursued a suit legal protection from having to conform to the mandate. In April, according to the [Catholic Education Daily](#), “The University filed a

petition with the U.S. Court of Appeals for a rehearing of its plea for an injunction against the HHS mandate in front of the entire Seventh Circuit, rather than the panel of three judges which earlier denied the plea.” Many universities and other organizations that are seeking exemption from the mandate argue that some of the “contraceptions” that are paid for by their insurance companies are abortifacient.

- **Loyola Marymount.** Loyola Marymount hires dean with past ties to Planned Parenthood. According to the [National Catholic Register](#), Loyola Marymount, a Jesuit university in Los Angeles, recently appointed Robbin Crabtree as dean of the Bellarmine College of Liberal Arts. Crabtree has been a consultant to Planned Parenthood in Indiana. An alumni group, Renew LMU has cited the choice as evidence that LMU may be in danger of losing its Catholic identity, stating that Crabtree’s past ties with Planned Parenthood are contrary to the universities commitment to justice.
- **Yale.** Yale Social Justice Center denies membership to pro-life group. Dwight Hall, a justice and peace Center on the campus of Yale University denied Choose Life At Yale (CLAY) membership because some people on campus were claiming that a pro-life position is contrary to social justice because it is contrary to gender equity. See [this National Catholic Register article](#) for details.

Resources

I*n which we highlight scholarly journal and online articles and resources regarding abortion, infanticide, and euthanasia representing all sides of issue.*

Recent and upcoming research and data

- **Euthanasia.** In the viewpoint, “[Pediatric Euthanasia in Belgium: Disturbing](#)

[Developments](#),” Andrew M. Siegel, MD, Dominic A. Sisti, PhD, and Arthur L. Caplan, PhD state that palliative care is the ethic solution to pain, rather than euthanasia. *Journal of the American Medical Association* (April 17, 2014)

- In “[Judging the Quality of Mercy: Drawing a Line Between Palliation and Euthanasia](#),” Wynne Morrison, MD, MBE and Tammy Kang, MD, MSCE, “explore some of the historical and legal background regarding appropriate end-of-life care and outline what distinguishes it from euthanasia.” *Pediatrics* 133 Supplement 1 (February 1, 2014) S31-S36 (doi: 10.1542/peds.2013-3608F)
- In *Death Talk, Second Edition: The Case Against Euthanasia and Physician-Assisted Suicide*, Margaret A. Somerville “identifies the very serious harms for individuals and society that would result from accepting euthanasia.” Somerville is Samuel Gale Professor of Law, professor in the Faculty of Medicine, and founding director of the McGill Centre for Medical Ethics and Law at McGill University. McGill-Queen's University Press, 2014
- In *Palliative Care and Ethics*, Timothy E. Quill, Franklin G. Miller “use a series of case presentations within each chapter to illustrate some of the palliative care and hospice challenges with significant ethical dimensions across the three overarching domains: 1) care delivery systems; 2) addressing the many dimensions of suffering; and 3) difficult decisions near the end of life.”. Timothy E. Quill is a Professor of Medicine, Psychiatry, Medical Humanities and Nursing at the University of Rochester School of Medicine. Franklin G. Miller. is a member of the senior faculty in the Department of Bioethics, National Institutes of Health (NIH) and Special Expert, National Institute of Mental Health Intramural Research Program. Oxford University Press, 2014.
- Megan-Jane Johnstone assesses polling techniques and other ways the media colors

the discussion about euthanasia in “[Media manipulation and the euthanasia debate](#),” *Australian Nursing & Midwifery Journal* 21:7 (Feb. 2014) 34 (accessed May 5, 2014).

- **Brain death.** There have been two medical cases recently which involved the diagnosed brain-death of a patient.

The first case is that of Jahi McMath, the 13-year old California girl who was declared brain dead by the doctors and then was handed over to her family for care. [As this article in the National Catholic Register details](#), the case has intensified an ongoing vigorous debate especially among Catholic moral theologians about the validity of brain death as a criterion for determining with moral certainty whether a person is dead, especially in light of Pope John Paul II’s statements supporting the criterion. The article features the positions of UFL member Dr. **Paul Byrne** and Wesley Smith, of the Discovery Institute, who take different sides on the adequacy of brain death. It also includes input by Bobby Schindler, Terri Schiavo’s brother, UFL member **Fr. Michael Orsi**, of Ave Maria University, Dr. Daniel Sulmasy of the University of Chicago and Bishop Robert Finn of the Diocese of Kansas City-St. Joseph, MO.

The second case involving the diagnosed brain death of a patient has a direct bearing on our society’s understanding of the status of the unborn. In this case, a pregnant Fort Worth woman, Marlise Muñoz, was declared brain dead. Her family wanted her taken off life support in accordance with her own instruction. The hospital refused because of a Texas law that required them to wait until the baby is viable so it might survive. UFL member **E. Christian Brugger** discusses the details of this case in [this National Catholic Register article](#). Brugger points out that in a society where the unborn baby was considered fully human and fully alive, this would not be a controversial case—the woman would be kept on support until the baby could be delivered. In our society, where the

status of the unborn is not fully accepted, the case appears to be about the autonomy of the woman to make medical decisions in light of an unjust law, as can be seen in [this NYT article](#): the woman could have chosen an abortion at the same point, so why not state in advance she doesn't want to be kept on supprt, even if it means the death of the baby?

- ***Roe v. Wade***. Here is a link to Michael Paulsen's paper entitled "The Insistent Analogy to Slavery." http://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/papers.cfm?abstract_id=2395002

This paper was presented at the "Roe at 40" conference at Washington & Lee Law School. The conference was supported by University Faculty for Life, among others, and largely came about through the hard work of **Sam Calhoun**. The papers from the conference, including Professor Paulsen's paper, will be published in a forthcoming issue of the *Washington & Lee Law Review*.

- In anticipation of the anniversary of *Roe v. Wade*, Dr. Ben S. Carson, professor-emeritus of neurosurgery at Johns Hopkins University, wrote [this commentary](#) for the Washington Times.

Attempting to characterize love and compassion for human life as a "war on women" is deceitful and pathetic.

- Here is a link to "[41 Years Later: Why Roe Said What It Did](#)," Justin Buckley Dyer's summary of Clarke Forsythe's book, *Abuse of Discretion* on the [Library of Law and Liberty](#) web page.

Forsythe, a man who has spent his life for pro-life causes, makes a strong case for returning the issue back to American legislatures and renewing the public debate about the "foundation for equal dignity and human flourishing in our democratic republic." As Forsythe shows in *Abuse of Discretion*, that debate has been stunted and

skewed by a badly reasoned decision imprudently rendered by an inept Court with disastrous political consequences that continue to haunt us today.

- ***Sex-selection abortion***. Here is a good essay, "[Sugar and Spice and ... Sex-Selective Abortions?](#)," by Daniel Kuebler explaining why the US ought to ban sex-selection abortion.
- ***Abortion and contraception***. It looks like the "contraception reduces abortion" trope is beginning to lose its power, even among abortion providers. This LifeSiteNews article, "[Two-thirds of women seeking abortions were using contraception: Britain's largest abortion provider](#)," highlights many studies and statements, even by abortion promoters and providers, that contraception not only doesn't reduce abortion rates, but actually increases them. The article focuses on a recent study by the British Pregnancy Advisory Service, "UK's largest abortion provider," that two-thirds of women who have abortions were using contraception at the time they conceived their child.
- Here are a couple of articles about the recent Guttmacher study that shows that abortion rates are declining in the U.S. Guttmacher speculates that the reason for the decline is contraception use. The first NRO article, "[U.S. Abortion Rate Falls to Its Lowest Level Since 1973](#)," by UFL member **Michael New**, shows that Guttmacher's explanations for the decline lack a basis in their data. The second "[Regulating Abortion Reduces Abortion](#)," by James Heaney, shows how Guttmacher's own data *supports* the assertion that stricter abortion laws have reduced the incidents of abortion.
- ***Tele-med abortions***. Reproductive Research Audit has published a [critical analysis](#) of a [study published in the American Journal of Public Health](#) that claims that tele-med (webcam) administration of chemical abortions reduces the likelihood of

complications. RRA's analysis finds flaws in the original study and attempts to show in [their own report](#) that the data actually shows the opposite.

- **[ACP statement on Belgium's child euthanasia law](#)**. Lifenews.com, in "American College of Pediatricians Blasts Belgium for Legalizing Child Euthanasia," reports on and posts the statement by the ACP critical of Belgium's new euthanasia law which puts no lower limit on the age of euthanasia. The Netherlands' law allowing infant euthanasia is also considered.

Physicians are healers not killers. An individual's future quality of life cannot be predicted by caregivers. The role of the physician is to promote health, cure when possible, and relieve pain and suffering as part of the care they provide. The intentional neglect for, or taking of, a human life is never acceptable, regardless of health system mandates. The killing of infants and children can never be endorsed by the American College of Pediatricians and should never be endorsed by any other ethical medical or social entity.

- **[Conscientious objection](#)**. If you are researching conscientious objection, you might want to look at the [December 2013 issue of the International Journal of Gynecology & Obstetrics](#) to see the thought of those who are trying to keep conscientious objection from affecting the availability of abortion. You may want to check your institutions databases to see if you can get free access. Here are some of the articles:

Editorial

[Conscientious objection to the provision of reproductive healthcare.](#)

Conscientious Objection

[Conscientious objection and refusal to provide reproductive healthcare: A White](#)

[Paper examining prevalence, health consequences, and policy responses](#)

[Conscientious objection or fear of social stigma and unawareness of ethical obligations](#)

[Conscientious objection to provision of legal abortion care](#)

[Legal and ethical standards for protecting women's human rights and the practice of conscientious objection in reproductive healthcare settings](#)

- **[Literature](#)**. In *Abortion in the American Imagination: Before Life and Choice, 1880-1940*, Karen Weingarten. "traces the discourses on abortion across a wide array of media, putting fiction by canonical writers like William Faulkner, Edith Wharton, and Langston Hughes into conversation with the era's films, newspaper articles, and activist rhetoric." Rutgers University Press (June 13, 2014)
- **[History](#)**. Brookes, Barbara. *Abortion in England 1900-1967* Routledge, 2014.
- Rose Hotz's book, *The Birth Control Clinic in a Marketplace World*, looks at the questions, "What were the meanings attached to the provision of birth control and its commercial distribution? How in turn were these meanings used as sources of power? The project draws on rich primary sources to answer these questions and to examine the historical role of the local birth control clinic in modern America." (Rochester Studies in Medical History). University of Rochester Press, 2014.

Statistics

- **[How the face of pro-life advocates is changing](#)**. The Public Religion Research Institute published some statistics ("What Will the Next Generation of Anti-Abortion Advocates Look Like? Different.") about the ever-growing pro-life attitude of

young Americans, even those who are not Christians.

Of young Americans who oppose abortion, fewer are white Christians* (37 percent) than the nearly 8-in-10 (78 percent) who make up the group of senior Americans who oppose abortion. This includes fewer white evangelical Protestants (16 percent vs. 43 percent), fewer white Catholics (8 percent vs. 20 percent) and roughly the same number of white mainline Protestants (13 percent vs. 15 percent). Among those who oppose abortion, younger Americans are more likely than senior Americans to be Hispanic Catholics (13 percent) or Hispanic Protestants (9 percent) than seniors who oppose abortion (2 percent and 1 percent, respectively).

- ***Planned Parenthood abortion to adoption ratio.*** According to a [CNSNews.com article](#), Planned Parenthood's recent [annual report](#) shows that they performed 148 abortions for every adoption referral it did.

CNSNews.com also asked Planned Parenthood how many of the 2,197 "adoption referrals to other agencies" Planned Parenthood made in fiscal 2012 actually resulted in adoptions, and if the organization planned to increase that number. Planned Parenthood had not responded by the time this story was posted.

- ***The effect of legal restrictions on abortion rates.*** "Abortion Incidence and Service Availability In the United States, 2011." Rachel K. Jones and Jenna Jerman. "The national abortion rate has resumed its decline, and no evidence was found that the overall drop in abortion incidence was related to the decrease in providers or to restrictions implemented between 2008 and 2011." *Perspectives on Sexual and Reproductive Health*. 46:1 (March 2014), 3-14, (doi: 10.1363/46e0414).

- ***State abortion laws shifting in a pro-life direction.*** According to a [National Catholic Register article](#), a survey by Americans United for Life, an organization "which works to develop and promote model pro-life legislation for states," state abortion laws are becoming more pro-life and are protecting women more from the ravishes of abortion. The survey esp. highlights Louisiana, Oklahoma, Arkansas, Arizona, and Pennsylvania as the most pro-life states. The states that have improved the most are Texas, Illinois, North Carolina, and Kansas. The worst laws are in California, Vermont, New York, and Connecticut.
- ***More African American abortions than births in NYC.*** As [CNSnews.com reports](#), a recent report by the New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene shows that more African Americans were aborted in 2012 than were born. The report also indicates a high ratio of Hispanic abortions. The statistics are consistent with the abortion figures from the Center for Disease Control in 2010.
- ***African-American abortion rate in Mississippi.*** According to another [CNSNews article](#), CDC statistics reveal that African American abortions are disproportionately high compared to ratio of African Americans in the state's population. "Although whites outnumber blacks in Mississippi by nearly 2-to-1, 71.67% of the babies aborted in Mississippi are black, while 26.6% are white."
- ***Most Americans oppose most abortions.*** Here are links to stories from [LifeNews](#) and the [National Right to Life News](#) discussing a recent CNN poll that shows that most Americans oppose most abortions, and that most Americans oppose public funding of abortion. This confirms the results of other polls in recent years.

- ***Comparing U.S. and Russian birth rates.*** This article from [Forbes magazine](#) looks at the birthrates in Russia and the U.S. in light of the belief that the U.S. fertility situation is significantly better than Russia's.

Editor's Corner

I'm taking a break from the "Focus on the Disciplines" series to make a few observations about the role of teaching and scholarship in the promotion of a culture of life.

There are a large number of entries in this issue about the activities of UFL members (p. 2). There are more references to members in the Recent Research section (p. 7). Although a lot of the entries relate to pro-life scholarship, there are a fair number of them which are not directly related, or only tangentially related to the issues of abortion, euthanasia, and infanticide. Topics covered included virtue theory, the Sabbath, French Church history, religious liberty, natural family planning, marriage, the bible, religion in the public square, and movie reviews. There is a mix of scholarly and more popular publications.

Pro-life scholars contribute to a culture of life not only by directly articulating a reasoned defense of a pro-life cultural perspective in their area of expertise, but also by promoting a culture of truth in all their work. Even scholars who do not publish directly in the areas on which UFL focuses are supporting UFL's work by clarifying the truth, promoting the good, and revealing the beautiful in all their scholarly work and in their engagement from the perspective of their field with popular culture.

This observation doesn't begin to address the influence a faculty member can have on the student by cultivating a friendship with the student so the student can be initiated into a life-affirming world view through contact with a community of scholars who supports life.

One of the best ways to build up the community of pro-life scholars is to attend the XXIV Annual Life and Learning Conference at Fordham University in New York City on Jun 6-7. Please come and join us. See page 1 for details.

Please begin to think about items for next issue, which will come out in October, 2013. We need

- Notices of member's publications, presentations and other activities,
- Calls for papers and notices of upcoming conferences.
- Citations of relevant significant research in any discipline, whether from a pro-life perspective, neutral, or the opposing perspective.
- Useful online and print resources.

You can send them to me any time. I will put them on the [blog](#) first, and then put them in *ProVita*. Any contributions may be forwarded to provitanews@yahoo.com.

Masthead

Publisher [University Faculty for Life](#)

Editor [Robert F. Gotcher, Ph.D.](#)

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Pro Vita is the quarterly online newsletter of the [University Faculty for Life](#). Its purpose is to promote research, dialogue and publication by faculty who respect the value of human life from inception to natural death, especially focusing on abortion, euthanasia, and infanticide. More information about UFL can be found on our web site at uffl.org. Editorial correspondence can be sent to the editor at <mailto:provitanews@yahoo.com>.

University Faculty for Life Scholarly
Achievement Award
in Creative Writing, Literary Criticism, or
Research

\$600 total prizes
Possible presentation of work at annual
conference
Opportunity for publication

University Faculty for Life is accepting submissions from college or university students for its Scholarly Achievement Award. The contest is open to undergraduate and graduate students at any higher education institution (community college, medical school, seminary, university, etc.); postsecondary students enrolled in college-level courses are eligible as well.

The contest has three categories: Creative Writing, Literary Criticism, or Research. Multiple submissions are permitted. Work submitted in any category must demonstrate the application of a life-affirming perspective on abortion, infanticide, euthanasia, or related issues.

The student scholars who win in any category may be offered an opportunity to read their work before the annual conference of University Faculty for Life to be held 6-7 June 2014 at Fordham University (Bronx, New York). They may have their work published on UFL's website and in conference proceedings. Finally, first-place winners in each category will receive \$200.

University Faculty for Life is an organization of scholars dedicated to the intellectual and scholarly inquiry of abortion, infanticide, euthanasia, and related issues. Since an increasing majority of college and university students are pro-life, UFL members would like to help these students by encouraging them to strive for scholarly excellence as they examine

the life issues and by assisting them in building a publications portfolio.

Entries must be emailed or postmarked before 11:59 PM EST, Saturday, 24 May 2014

Rules

1. Students must be enrolled in a higher education institution before the contest deadline; a photo or emailed copy of an identification card with current institutional sticker will suffice.
2. The student shall affirm in a cover letter that the work submitted is the student's original work. Please enclose address and contact information in this letter.
3. Essay submissions must be a minimum of six but no more than ten pages; poetry submissions can be of any length. Both essay and poetry submissions must be double-spaced.
4. Students retain the right of publication.
5. A panel of judges will evaluate submissions based on the quality of research and the demonstration of strong communication and critical thinking skills. Correct grammar and punctuation are required. Research must follow either the *APA Manual* or the *MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers*, latest editions. The judges reserve the right to give a second place, third place, honorable mention, or no award if the quality of the submissions merits such action. The decision of the judges is final.
6. Students should submit their work electronically in Word format to DrJeffKoloze@att.net. The cover letter and a hard copy of the paper may be mailed to UFL Scholarly Achievement Award, 10019 Granger Road, Garfield Heights, Ohio 44125-3101.

Resources for research and education

Member web pages and blogs		
UFL Blog	http://www.uffl.org/blog/	
UFL Annual Proceedings.	http://uffl.org/pastproceedings.html	
Peter Colosi	http://peterjcolosi.com/	
Francis Beckwith Return to Rome	http://www.patheos.com/blogs/returntorome/	
Mirror of Justice	http://mirrorofjustice.blogs.com/	A blog dedicated to the development of Catholic legal theory.
Culture of Life Foundation	http://www.cultureoflife.org/	Complex moral issues made simple
Witherspoon Institute Public Discourse	http://www.thepublicdiscourse.com/	Public Discourse is an online publication of the Witherspoon Institute that seeks to enhance the public understanding of the moral foundations of free societies by making the scholarship of the fellows and affiliated scholars of the Institute available and accessible to a general audience.

Conferences		
Notre Dame Center for Ethics and Culture Fall Conference	http://ethicscenter.nd.edu/programs/fall-conference-videos	Held in November
Cardinal O'Connor Conference on Life	http://cardinaloconnorconference.com/	Co-sponsored by UFL. Held in conjunction with the annual March for Life in January.
Prolife World Congress	http://www.prolifeworldcongress.org/	The next Congress is in 2015. The site is in Spanish
Online resources		
Social Science Research Network (SSRN)	http://ssrn.com/en/	SSRN (the Social Science Research Network) .”Our vision was (and still is) to enable scholars to share and distribute their research worldwide, long before their papers work their way through the multi-year journal refereeing and publication process.”
USCCB Human Life and Dignity web page	http://usccb.org/issues-and-action/human-life-and-dignity/index.cfm	United States Conference of Catholic Bishops
World Expert Consortium for Abortion Research and Education	http://www.wecareexperts.org/	International research collaboration, Scientific information dissemination, Professional education, Consultation, Expert testimony, Program evaluation, Grant writing
Before Roe v. Wade:	http://documents.law.yale.edu/before-	“In this ground-breaking book,

Voices that Shaped the Abortion Debate Before the Supreme Court's Ruling (2d edition, 2012)	roe	Linda Greenhouse, a Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist who covered the Supreme Court for 30 years for The New York Times, and Reva Siegel, a renowned professor at Yale Law School, collect documents illustrating cultural, political, and legal forces that helped shape the Supreme Court's decision and the meanings it would come to have over time."
Reproductive Research Audit	http://reproductiveresearchaudit.com/	"Reproductive Research Audit (RRA) exists to shine a light on the methodology of scientific studies on reproductive health issues, exposing their bias, flaws and propensity to ignore data that does not support a pre-determined political agenda."
Global Health and Human Rights Database	http://www.globalhealthrights.org/	"The Global Health and Human Rights Database is a free online database of law from around the world relating to health and human rights. Developed by Lawyers Collective and the O'Neill Institute for National and Global Health Law at Georgetown University, in collaboration with a worldwide network of civil society partners, the database offers an interactive, searchable, and fully indexed website of case law, national constitutions and international instruments."
Journals and online publications		
Human Life Review	http://www.humanlifereview.com/	

Linacre Quarterly	http://cathmed.org/issues_resources/linacre_quarterly/	Journal of the Catholic Medical Association.
Post-Abortion Review	http://www.theunchoice.com/pblresearch.htm	“Documents abortion's injustice and harm to women”
Charlotte Lozier Institute (Susan B. Anthony List)	http://www.lozierinstitute.org/	The education and research arm of the Susan B. Anthony List
Ethika Politika	http://ethikapolitika.org/	Ethika Politika is a publication of the Center for Morality in Public Life. Its purpose is to put the search for wisdom at the service of good practical decisions, and to engage contemporary ethical and cultural issues from an elevated yet common sense perspective.
Organizations		
Society of Catholic Social Scientists	http://catholicsocialscientists.org/Content/Organization/	
Catholic Medical Association	http://cathmed.org/	
Guttmacher Institute	http://www.guttmacher.org/	Research arm of Planned Parenthood Federation. Guttmacher Policy Review Perspectives on Sexual and Reproductive Health. International Perspectives on Sexual and Reproductive Health
Healing the Culture	http://healingtheculture.com/	Promotes the Life Principles of UFL co-founder Robert J.

		Spitzer, SJ.
Bioethics defense fund	http://www.bdfund.org/	<p>Bioethics Defense Fund (BDF) is a public-interest law firm whose mission is to advocate for the human right to life via litigation, legislation and public education.</p> <p>BDF provides legal expertise and public education on the issues of healthcare rights of conscience, abortion and its impact on women, human cloning/destructive human embryo research, and end of life issues including physician-assisted suicide and healthcare rationing.</p>
National Catholic Bioethics Center	http://www.ncbcenter.org/	Publishes the <i>National Catholic Bioethics Quarterly</i>
Prolife Center at the University of St. Thomas	http://www.stthomas.edu/law/academics/prolifecenter/	Founded and headed by UFL member Teresa Collett
Center for Bioethics and Human Dignity	http://cbhd.org/	“The Center for Bioethics & Human Dignity explores the nexus of biomedicine, biotechnology, and our common humanity. Within a Judeo-Christian Hippocratic framework, we anticipate, interpret, and engage the pressing bioethical issues of our day. As a center of rigorous research, theological and conceptual analysis, charitable critique, and thoughtful engagement, we bring clarity to the complex issues of our day.”

Feminists for Life	http://www.feministsforlife.org/	
News		
National Right to Life News	http://www.nationalrighttolifenews.org/news/#.UtH6Sp5dWSo	
LifeNews.com	http://www.lifenews.com/	
LifeSiteNews	http://www.lifesitenews.com/	
Bioedge	http://www.bioedge.org/	Bioethics News around the world