Dr. Wendy Lipworth is a medically trained bioethicist and health social scientist, and Senior Research Fellow, currently working at the Centre for Values, Ethics and the Law in Medicine, University of Sydney. She oversees a program of research that focuses primarily on the ethics and politics of biomedical innovation, with a particular emphasis on: (1) Health technology and medicines innovation: How health technologies (especially medicines, but also medical devices, diagnostics, biological therapies and complementary medicines) are discovered, tested, commercialised, regulated, funded and translated into clinical practice; (2) Research involving biobanks/big data; and (3) Biomedical publication.

Abstract

Medical professionals are deeply—and increasingly—dependent upon pharmaceutical companies to provide them with continuing medical education and research funding. While such interactions are often mutually beneficial, they also raise concerns about potential 'conflicts of interest' on the part of medical professionals—particularly when the interactions involve exchanges of value in the form of money, gifts, food, drug samples, or services. In this talk I will discuss the problem of financial "conflict of interest" in health and medicine, I will then report on the findings from 6 focus groups conducted with Australian medical students, which explored students' perceptions of conflicts of interest and the influence of commercial values in health care and medical education. Finally, I will discuss the implications of these findings for medical education.

Date:         Wednesday 6th April, 2016 (Semester 1, Week 7)
Time:         Sydney: 12.30 – 1.30 pm / Fremantle: 10.30 – 11.30am
Venue:        NDS14-701 (Governors’ Boardroom) Darlinghurst campus, Sydney
               Available in Fremantle by video-link: ND19-112 DVC meeting room

For further enquiries please email ies@nd.edu.au