

Surgery News

2021 Department of Surgery Surgical Ethics Conference

On August 4, 2021, the University of Washington's (UW) Department of Surgery's (DOS) Center for Surgical Ethics hosted its 4th annual conference with great success. Due to the pandemic, the conference was transitioned to a completely virtual format offering a combination of both synchronous and asynchronous presentations.

The Surgical Ethics Conference is offered annually in partnership with the [Department of Bioethics and Humanities'](#) longstanding Summer Seminar event and is specifically devoted to topics of special interest to surgeons, anesthesiologists, surgical nurses, as well as residents and fellows of all surgical specialties.

Each year, the conference aims to define ethical principles and concepts as well as provide a toolbox for ethical conflict resolution. Participants are provided with the history, foundations, and principles of Surgical Ethics including information to enable participants to make competent ethical decisions when confronted in their everyday surgical practice.

The UW DOS's Center for Surgical Ethics holds at its core a mission to improve the health of the public by promoting the highest standards of ethical care in surgery. It aims to elevate the ethical delivery of surgical care and promote education and scholarship within and beyond UW Medicine.

This year's conference highlighted timely topics facing surgeons today including, "Ethical Leadership in Times of a Pandemic" (presented by [Christopher Ellison, MD, FAVC, MAMSE](#)), "Organ Shortage in Transplantation" (presented by [Martin Montenovo, MD, FACS](#)), and "Black Lives Matter: The Ethics of Knowing Surgical Outcomes by Race" (presented by [Jason Keune, MD, MBA, FACS](#)).



The 2021 Surgical Ethics Conference, hosted by Center leadership [Alberto Ferreres, MD, PhD, FACS \(Hon.\)](#), ASA (Hon.) (above left), [Denise Dudzinski, PhD, HEC-C](#), (above center) and [Douglas E. Wood, MD, FACS, FRCSEd](#), (above right) attracted participants from across the globe from a wide array of professional backgrounds including both surgical patient care and non-clinical roles.

Visit [Center for Surgical Ethics](#) for information regarding the 2021 Surgical Ethics Conference and how to get involved.



UW Medicine Research at South Lake Union