

Dennis Cooley, Professor of Philosophy and Ethics and Director of the Northern Plains Ethics Institute at NDSU has been invited to the National Bioethics Center's Public Health Ethics Intensive Course, scheduled for March 24-27, 2020. Cooley's will serve as Thursday's keynote plenary speaker addressing the topic: "Census 2020".

The theme for this year's course is "Ethics & Vulnerability: The U.S. Constitution" The PHEI will focus on bioethics, public health ethics and health disparity issues related to social justice. This theme alludes to synergy between ethics, law, the U.S. Constitution, and the continual need to focus on the major issues affecting the lived experiences of susceptible populations.

This event is one of three activities held during the 23rd Year of Commemorating the 1997 Presidential Apology for the U.S. Public Health Service Syphilis Study at Tuskegee "Syphilis Study" (https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tuskegee_syphilis_experiment). The Syphilis Study was one of the most egregious investigations in human subjects research and health care. By Executive Order, President Clinton mandated that the Department of Health and Human Services fund Tuskegee University to establish a bioethics center, "making sure there is never again another episode like this one."

Rueben C. Warren, Professor and the National Bioethics Center's Director, wrote in his invitation to Cooley, "On the 23rd Anniversary since the Presidential Apology, and the 88th year since the Study began, there can be no better person to make this course rigorous and worthwhile for the attendees."