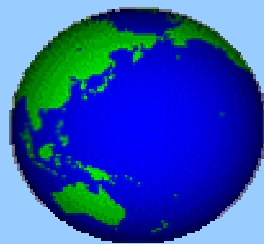


**GLOBAL
LAWYERS
AND
PHYSICIANS**



Annual Report
2004

GLOBAL LAWYERS AND PHYSICIANS 2004 ANNUAL REPORT

JANUARY 2005

OUR MISSION

Global Lawyers and Physicians is a non-profit non-governmental organization that focuses on health and human rights issues.

Global Lawyers and Physicians was founded in 1996 at an international symposium held at the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum to commemorate the 50th Anniversary of the Nuremberg Doctors Trial. As one of the earliest and most important human rights and health documents, the Nuremberg Code was developed by lawyers and physicians working together. GLP was formed to reinvigorate the collaboration of the legal and medical/public health professions to protect the human rights and dignity of

all persons. By virtue of their privileged positions, lawyers and physicians, have special obligations to demonstrate their commitment to life, health, social justice, and equality, have special obligations to all people. GLP was founded on the premise that these professions, working together transnationally, can be a much more effective force for human rights than either profession can working separately.

Our mission is to work at the local, national, and international levels through collaboration and partnerships with individuals, NGOs, IGOs, and governments to encourage the global implementation of the health-related provi-

sions of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the Covenants on Civil and Political Rights and Economic, Social, and Cultural Rights, with a focus on health and human rights, patient rights, and human experimentation.

Our Goals are to:

>Provide information and resources about human rights.

>Serve as a network and referral source for professionals working on health-related human rights issues.

>Provide support and assistance in developing, implementing, and advocating public policies and legal remedies which protect and enhance human rights in health.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

PROJECTS	2
VISITING ACTIVISTS	3
CONFERENCES	3
COURSES	4
ADVOCACY	4-5
STUDENT CAUCUS	5
PUBLICATIONS	6-7



BOSTON CENTER FOR REFUGEE HEALTH & HUMAN RIGHTS

The Boston Center for Refugee Health and Human Rights (BCRHHR) at Boston Medical Center, formed at the initiative of GLP, endeavors to fill a serious gap in the health care safety net in New England by reaching out to survivors of torture, those seeking asylum, and traumatized refugees. The BCRHHR was also formed to serve as a focus for GLP advocacy on issues of refugee torture and humanitarian law. These high-risk populations often suffer from post-traumatic stress disorder and/or depression and typically need, but rarely receive, a complex set of medical and psychosocial services in order to successfully integrate into society. The BCRHHR currently provides a broad range of medical, legal, psychological and social services to survivors of torture and related trauma arriving in Boston and throughout the region. The BCRHHR brings together the expertise of several clinical departments at Boston Medical Center including Psychiatry, Family Medicine, Pediatrics, and Primary Care. The BCRHHR also represents a collaboration of the Boston University Schools of Medicine, Public Health, Law, and Dentistry. In 2004, approximately 300 patients were seen at the BCRHHR from 40 different countries including Afghanistan, Bosnia, Cameroon, Congo, Ethiopia, Iraq, Rwanda, Sierra Leone, Somalia, Sudan, Tibet and Uganda.

PROJECTS

In early 2004, the GLP received a grant from the Hudson Foundation for training in the Caring for Refugees and Survivors of Torture for the Maine Medical Center in Portland and the Central Maine Medical Center in Lewiston, ME.

Michael Grodin also participated in a program on **Caring for Survivors of Torture and Refugee Trauma**. This program took place in October and was sponsored by the Boston University Student Bioethics Society.

The BCRHHR staff has published many articles this year, including one in JAMA, and has also made presentations at the annual meeting of both the Society of General Internal Medicine and the American Public Health Association, both in Washington, D.C. The BCRHHR has also conducted in-service training sessions for residents at Boston Medical Center, as well as training for other professionals in collaboration with Physicians for Human Rights, American Public Health Association and Francois Bagnoud Center for Health and Human Rights (FXB).



BCRHHR Staff and Refugees

In October 2004, The Asylum Preparation Project (www.glphr.org/refugee/resources.htm) was completed. The Boston Center for Refugee Health and Human Rights uses this set of documents to prepare both the asylum applicant and the expert witness for an initial asylum officer interview and the EOIR merits hearing. The slides include pictures of the EOIR corridor, the courtroom and instructions identifying where the judge sits, where the applicant will sit, how to conduct oneself in the hearing, etc. With the completion of this project, GLP cosponsored its first of many workshops, entitled **Training Session for Asylum Evaluations and Documentation of Survivors of Torture and Refugee Trauma** in December 2004. In keeping with the GLP goal of doctors and lawyers working together, these workshops bring together professionals from various disciplines to facilitate expert testimony.

UNIVERSAL DECLARATION OF PATIENT RIGHTS

In 2002, an international committee was established to develop a "Universal Declaration of Patient Rights." This committee continued its work in 2004 and is examining how to encourage recognition of the rights of patients as a necessary component of basic human rights both in law and in practice. The committee is using established models which support patient rights (i.e. The Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the European Convention on Human Rights) to develop a broader statement for use by other countries including the development of more detailed guidelines for regions, countries or organizations that wish to implement particular patient rights. Wendy Mariner is chairing this committee. Members of the Committee include: George J. Annas, USA; Lars Fallberg, Sweden; Eleanor D. Kinney, USA; Johan Legemaate, The Netherlands; Stephen Mackenney, England; Paul McNeill, Australia; Naruo Uehara, Japan; Zhao Ning, Peoples Republic of China.



Wendy K. Mariner

HUMAN RIGHTS AND HEALTH NETWORK

GLP's major goal is to facilitate cooperative work on human rights by lawyers and physicians, with a primary focus on health. GLP established the **Consortium for Health & Human Rights** in 1998 to enable professionals to more easily and effectively combine their skills and

influence to promote the human rights and health agenda. The Consortium consists of GLP, Physicians for Human Rights (PHR), the Francois Bagnoud Center for Health and Human Rights (FXB), and the New England branch of Amnesty International. Activities of the Consortium, including conferences, cur-

riculum development and support for student organizing, can be found at the Consortium's website which is maintained by Physicians for Human Rights

www.healthandhumanrights.org



Camp Guantanamo

HEALTH AND HUMAN RIGHTS VISITING ACTIVISTS

Marie Norredam, MD, a physician from Denmark, worked with GLP and the BCRHHR on the epidemiology and delivery systems for caring for survivors of torture and refugee trauma. Marie completed her yearlong study at GLP but continues to collaborate from Denmark. She recently published an article *Urologic Complications of Sexual Trauma among Male Survivors of Torture in Urology*.

We also had **Paula Lobato de Faria, Ph.D.**, a visiting scholar from the **National School of**

Public Health, New University of Lisbon, Portugal, with us from January until June 2004. She worked on projects related to human rights and reproductive genetics.

The Department of Health Law, Bioethics and Human Rights offers an opportunity for scholars from outside the university to pursue a special course of study or research in relation to completing a specific writing project in the area of health law or bioethics. Previous visiting scholars have come from the United

States and other countries, including Australia, Belgium, China, Israel, Japan, Norway, Portugal, Scotland and Spain. Scholars interested in applying to be a Visiting Scholar in the Department should visit our website at www.bu.edu/sph/departments/health_law/



**Paula Lobato de Faria, Ph.D.,
Visiting Scholar**

CONFERENCES

CAMP GUANTANAMO: HEALTH AND HUMAN RIGHTS CONTROVERSIES

In April 2004, this conference was sponsored by GLP, Physicians for Human Rights, The François-Xavier Bagnoud Center for Health & Human Rights, and Amnesty International. Guests heard first hand from a forensic psychiatrist about the mental health aspects of detention and from medical experts who treat victims of torture. This was

followed by a discussion about the legal and ethical ramifications of such detentions and what it means for human rights in the United States. Speakers included: Daryl Matthews, MD, Director, Forensic Psychiatry Program John A. Burns School of Medicine, Professor of Psychiatry University of Hawaii at Manoa; Allen Keller, MD, Director, Bellevue NYU Program for Survivors of Torture, Division of Primary Care Medicine, New York University School of Medicine; Michael A. Grodin,

MD, Professor of Health Law, Bioethics & Human Rights, Psychiatry, and Socio-Medical Sciences and Community Medicine Boston University Schools of Medicine and Public Health; Commentary by: Leonard S. Rubenstein, JD, Executive Director, Physicians for Human Rights.

To read about more of the highlights from this conference, you can visit our website at www.glphr.org/guantanamo/conference.htm



**Daryl Matthews,
Michael Grodin,
George Annas, and Alan
Keller**

7TH WORLD CONGRESS ON BIOETHICS

The Seventh World Congress of Bioethics took place in Sydney, Australia in November 2004. The Conference featured a public lecture in debate format in which George Annas and Alexander Morgan Capron, Human Rights Director for the World Health Organization, debated to proposition that Bioethics should adopt the

Human Rights framework. The debate was lively with vigorous audience participation. The debaters agreed that public health should adopt and is adopting the "health and human rights" approach for its work. Disagreement remains, nonetheless, on the extent to which medical ethics (and physicians) should see human rights, rather than only bioethics, as their primary ethical

touchstone. Although human rights have clear relevance to physicians in the areas of prison work, torture, military service, and other work for the government, translating human rights doctrine into more day-to-day doctor-patient relationship issues, like abortion and treatment of the dying, remains contentious. The 8th World Congress will be held in China in 2006.



**George Annas and
Alexander M. Capron
in Sydney at the
7th World Congress**

COURSES

In June 2004, GLP cosponsored a three-day intensive continuing education course on **Health & Human Rights** with FXB. People from over 22 countries have attended this course and many of them were provided with scholarships. George Annas, Michael Grodin, Stephen Marks, Sofia Gruskin and Monica Onyango taught this course. It will be offered for the fifth time in June 2005. For more information, visit:

www.hsph.harvard.edu/ccpe/programs/ICHH.shtml

For the past seven years George Annas and Michael Grodin have offered a **Human Rights and Health** course at the Boston University School of Public Health. Every other year they also offer the course at BU Law School. GLP continues to encourage others to incorporate health and human rights into their curricula. The Boston University Health and

Human Rights syllabus is available on request.

GLP and the Boston Center for Refugee Health and Human Rights organized several trainings for physicians, psychologists and social workers on health and human rights for survivors of torture and refugee trauma.



Health & Human Rights Class of 2004

GLP is an ongoing participant of the national **Health and Human Rights Curriculum Project**. Initial workshops were held at the Harvard School of Public Health and they brought together thirty specialists in public health practice and health professions educators with the explicit goal of providing advice on development of human rights education for students and practitioners of

public health, medicine and nursing. The conference was co-sponsored by the American Public Health Association's International Human Rights Committee and FXB.

Caring for Refugees and Survivors of Torture is a web-based course that was created, and has been used by professionals around the world for training and teaching purposes, including in Norway, Burma, Australia,

and by the International Rehabilitation Council for Torture Victims (IRCT). The course can be found at www.glyphr.org.

Learning Objectives

- >To understand the scope and magnitude of human right violations
- >To recognize signs and symptoms
- >To learn how to approach these patients
- >To be aware of resources available

ADVOCACY

During 2004, GLP sponsored visitors from many countries. Several Tibetan monks visited the BCRHHR to discuss challenges relating to implementing human rights and how the health of the Tibetan community is impacted. U.S. Congressman Capuano visited to discuss human rights issues with refugees and torture survivors. We also had Christian Pross, M.D., former Director for

Victims of Torture Center in Berlin, spent a week here discussing the problems of secondary traumatization of professionals who work with survivors of torture. Another visitor in November was Phil Weiner, War Crimes Prosecutor for the United Nations. Mr. Weiner spent many years in Massachusetts law enforcement, but left in 2001 to prosecute war criminals at The Hague. He also serves as

an Adjunct Professor at Boston College Law School overseeing an internship program at the International Criminal Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia. Phil has lectured extensively in the United States and Europe on various legal matters.

In April of 2004, George Annas, on behalf of GLP, commented on the possibility of developing a UNESCO



George Annas, Michael Grodin, Phil Weiner and Heidi Kummer

ADVOCACY (CONTINUED)

“Declaration on Universal Norms on Bioethics.” The following is an excerpt: “GLP urges you to recognize the Universal Declaration of Human Rights as the fundamental universal declaration of bioethics as well, and to see your charge as articulating how the universal principles of the declaration can be applied to bioethics and bio-ethical controversies. GLP believes it is more important to concentrate on new and creative ways to promote and enforce the UDHR, and to use it to develop more specific instruments like the Universal Declaration on the Human Genome and Human Rights, than to attempt to create what may be perceived as a competing set of univer- sal standards for medicine and bioethics”.



Dr. Michael Grodin
during Democratic
National Convention -
Boston, July 2004

HEALTH & HUMAN RIGHTS STUDENT CAUCUS

GLP sponsors the **Health & Human Rights Student Caucus** at the Boston University School of Public Health, which as a student composed and led organization, dedicates their efforts to exploring and supporting health and human rights concerns through education, collaboration and action in the local, national and global milieu. In 2004, the HHR Caucus focus was to plan and successfully execute an event every month to raise awareness and educate the surrounding community about human rights issues.

Some recent events include:

Bake Sale to support Day for Sudan: The Health and Human Rights Caucus raised \$280.00 dollars to support the guest speakers who spoke at our Day for Sudan (October 27th.) Members of the caucus brought in home-baked goods and sold items in the Medical School.

Co-Sponsorship of Candlelight vigils: The HHRC co-sponsored two candlelight vigils with the organization, American Anti-Slavery Group. The caucus printed material, postered, handed out invitations and attended the vigils that took place on Friday, November 5 at the Boston Common and December 10th at the steps of the Massachusetts State House.

Take Strides for Sudan: On October 27, 2004, the HHRC facilitated action within the Boston University Community to end the human rights crisis in Sudan. Two speakers made presentations, including, Nisrin Elamin, the Education and Outreach Coordinator at Grassroots International, a Boston-based human rights and international development organization, and Simon Deng, an ex-slave who spoke about what it was like to survive militia raids and slavery in Sudan. Simon’s personal testimony left the audience with a strong understanding of the human rights issues that continue in Sudan today.

Annual Clothing Drive: The HHRC successfully sponsored the fourth annual clothing drive for the Boston Center for Refugee Health and Human Rights. The caucus outreached to the BU School of Public Health and Medical School students, faculty and staff as well as the staff at Boston Medical center. Clothing was collected from November 1 – November 18.

World AIDS day event: In concurrence with the World Health Organization's observance, the HHRC worked with organizations such as WHO, UN AIDS, local groups to gather educational and advocacy materials to bring attention to AIDS in the public health and medical student community. 2004’s focus was specifically on women and AIDS.

SUPPORT AND CONTACT INFORMATION

Your support in **GLP** will help our efforts to provide information and resources about human rights and health; to serve as a network and referral source for professionals working on health-related human rights issues; and to assist in developing, implementing and advocating public policies to protect and enhance human rights and health. GLP supporters receive communications about our current projects and global concerns. Additionally, as a supporter of GLP, there are numerous opportunities to contribute your time and talents to **GLP** projects. Indeed, **GLP**’s past accomplishments are almost exclusively the product of our volunteers. Please visit our website at www.glp.org/membership.htm or email us at glp@bu.edu for further information.

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The world places significant value on the human rights and health movement as evidenced by a growing body of literature and the many emerging conferences devoted to this topic. However, human rights and health violations continue despite rapid medical and scientific advances, even in wealthy, industrialized countries. Economic polarization has intensified, resulting in widening disparities in health status and longevity. While a small percentage of the population enjoys a high quality of life and benefits from continuing scientific progress, billions of people lack access to even basic health care. It is essential to take equity seriously and move immediately to improve the lives of the 2 billion people who live in wretched conditions, and another 2 billion people with inadequate health care, education, and nutrition.

The bold promise of universal human rights is more often aspirational and inspirational than operational. Universal success of the movement requires a commitment on the part of each nation to move beyond self-interest and sovereignty as well as an effort to reach beyond elite, academic circles to involve all people in the solution. Barriers to reaching this goal must be addressed, including the failure of powerful nations to acknowledge and document human rights violations within their borders, insincerity in the application of recognized standards in their relationships with foreign powers, and complacency with the notion of human rights as a purely Western endeavor. Critical to this mission is the understanding that rights are ineffective if the correlative duties are not carried out.

It is imperative that wealthy nations both recognize an obligation to commit resources to less fortunate nations, and recognize the impact of setting a moral example.

As responsible lawyers and physicians working for health and human rights, we commit ourselves to sustaining the concepts of human rights and building on the impressive successes achieved thus far. Through continuing intellectual and practical approaches, we are resolved to broaden and intensify global concern for human health and concrete actions to improve the health and living conditions of all people.

NEW PUBLICATIONS (2004)

AMICUS BRIEFS SUPPORTED BY GLP

Brief of Human Rights First, Physicians for Human Rights, Global Lawyers and Physicians et al as Amici Curiae in Support of Petitioner-Appellee in the US Court of Appeals, Washington, D.C. in *Hamdan v. Rumsfeld*, December 2004

Brief of The Drug Policy Alliance, National Advocates for Pregnant Women, Global Lawyers and Physicians, et al as Amici Curiae in Support of Defendant's Motion To Dismiss The Indictment, Circuit Court of Chariton County, in *State of Missouri v. Keila K. Lewis*, October 2004

Brief of Child Welfare Organizing Project, Doctors of the World USA, Global Lawyers and Physicians, et al as Amici Curiae in Support of Respondent Stephanie P.'s Motion To Vacate, State of New York Family Court, In the Matter of *Bobbijean P.*, NN-03626-03, October 2004

BIOETHICS AND HUMAN RIGHTS

Annas, George J. *American Bioethics, Crossing Human Rights and Health Law Boundaries*, Oxford University Press, New York, 2005

Annas, George J. and Sherman Elias. *Politics, morals, and embryos*. *Nature* 2004; 431:19-20.

Annas, George J. *Commentary, Dialysis for a Prisoner of War*, *Hastings Center Report*, Nov-Dec 2004: 34 (6); 12.

PUBLICATIONS (CONTINUED)

GENETIC RESEARCH AND CLONING

Isasi, Rosario and Annas, George . [Arbitrage, Bioethics and Cloning: The ABC's of Gestating a United Nations Cloning Convention](#). Case Western Reserve Journal of International Law, Volume 35 No. 3., Fall 2003 (published Fall 2004)

PATIENT RIGHTS

Annas, George J. **The Rights of Patients**, 3d ed., NYU Press, New York. 2004

Annas, George J. *Forcible Medication for Courtroom Competence - The Case of Charles Sell*. **New Engl J Med**. 2004; 350:2297-2301.

Annas, George J. *Extremely Preterm Birth and Parental Authority to Refuse Treatment — The Case of Sidney Miller*. **New Engl J Med** 2004; 351:2118-2123.

TORTURE AND THE TREATMENT OF SURVIVORS

Grodin, Michael, Crosby, Sondra. *Subsidy or Surveillance: Too High a Price*. **Boston Globe**, August 28, 2004, p. A5

Crosby Sondra, Grodin, Michael *Report of Torture Must Be Probed*. **Boston Globe**, December 6, 2004, p. A14

Rourke Elizabeth, Crosby Sondra, Grodin Michael. *Falanga: An Unexpected Cause of Peripheral Neuropathy*. **Abstracts, Society for General Internal Medicine**, New England Region . 2004.

Crosby Sondra, Norredam Marie, Piwowarczyk Lin, Grodin Michael. *Prevalence of Survivors of Torture among Foreign-Born Patients at an Urban Ambulatory Care Practice*. **Abstracts, Society for General Internal Medicine**, Chicago, Ill. 2004.

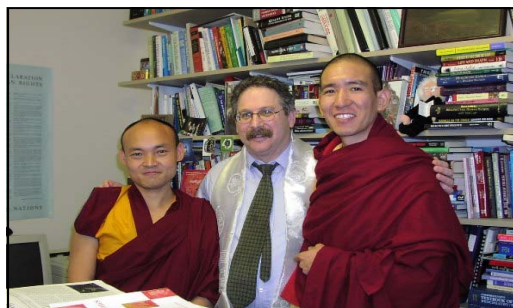
HEALTH AND HUMAN RIGHTS (forthcoming)

George Annas and Michael Grodin, together with Sofia Gruskin and Stephen Marks have completed editing a new Health and Human Rights volume entitled **Perspectives on Health and Human Rights**. This text focuses on successful methodologies and strategies for implementing the health and human rights paradigm. This is in final stages of production and the anticipated publication date is mid 2005 by Routledge/Taylor Francis.

NAMES AND FACES OF GLP –2004



Participants in GLP Sponsored Roundtable on Strategies to Unite Bioethics & Human Rights - 7th World Congress in Sydney, Australia



Tibetan Monks with Michael Grodin visiting GLP and the BCRHHR



Sondra Crosby and Michael Grodin on NPR in December 2004